

DAY 1: ENCOUNTER IN THE TEMPLE

BIBLE STORY:

Encounter in the Temple (Luke 2:41-52)

TODAY'S POINT:

Jesus knew why He came.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. When we trust in Jesus as Savior and Lord, He forgives our sin and gives us eternal life.

BIBLE VERSE:

But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. *John 20:31*

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

- Choose an object easily seen in the room. Say: "I spy something (adjective to describe the object)."
- Invite kids to guess the object. Offer hints until a child guesses correctly.
- Say: "In today's Bible story, Mary and Joseph were looking for something. Actually they were looking for someone! Let's Listen for who it was."

TELL THE BIBLE STORY

- Explain that the story talks about two towns: Nazareth and Jerusalem.

ENCOUNTER IN THE TEMPLE

(Luke 2:41-52)

Every year Jesus' parents traveled to Jerusalem for a special celebration at the temple (church). The celebration was called the Passover Festival. It was a time when the people remembered how God helped them leave Egypt.



When Jesus was 12 years old, Mary, Joseph, and Jesus traveled with other families to Jerusalem. In Jerusalem, they went to the temple and celebrated. After the feast was over, Mary and Joseph began the trip back to Nazareth. After traveling for a day, Mary and Joseph started looking for Jesus (*hold hand over eyes as if looking*). They thought He was traveling with His friends or some other family members. But Jesus was not with the group. They could not find Jesus with anyone else.

Mary and Joseph traveled back to Jerusalem. (*Use fingers to walk back to Jerusalem.*) They looked for Jesus in the city. Finally they found Him at the temple. He was listening (*put hand around ear*) to the teachers and asking them questions (*point to your mouth*). The teachers were surprised by how much Jesus knew about God.

When Jesus' parents saw Him, Mary said, "We've been looking everywhere for You!" Jesus said, "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know I would be at the temple talking about God?"

Jesus went home with His parents and did what they told Him to do. (*Use fingers to walk to Nazareth.*) Jesus continued to grow. He grew taller and stronger and smarter. He learned how to do many things. God was pleased with Jesus, and so were many people who knew Him.

*****Show Bible Story Picture*****. Point out that Jesus is in the temple (church) talking about God.

ASK QUESTIONS...

Q. Why did Jesus and his family travel to Jerusalem?

A. For the passover Celebration (Put hands in the air and wiggle fingers, wave hands as if celebrating.)

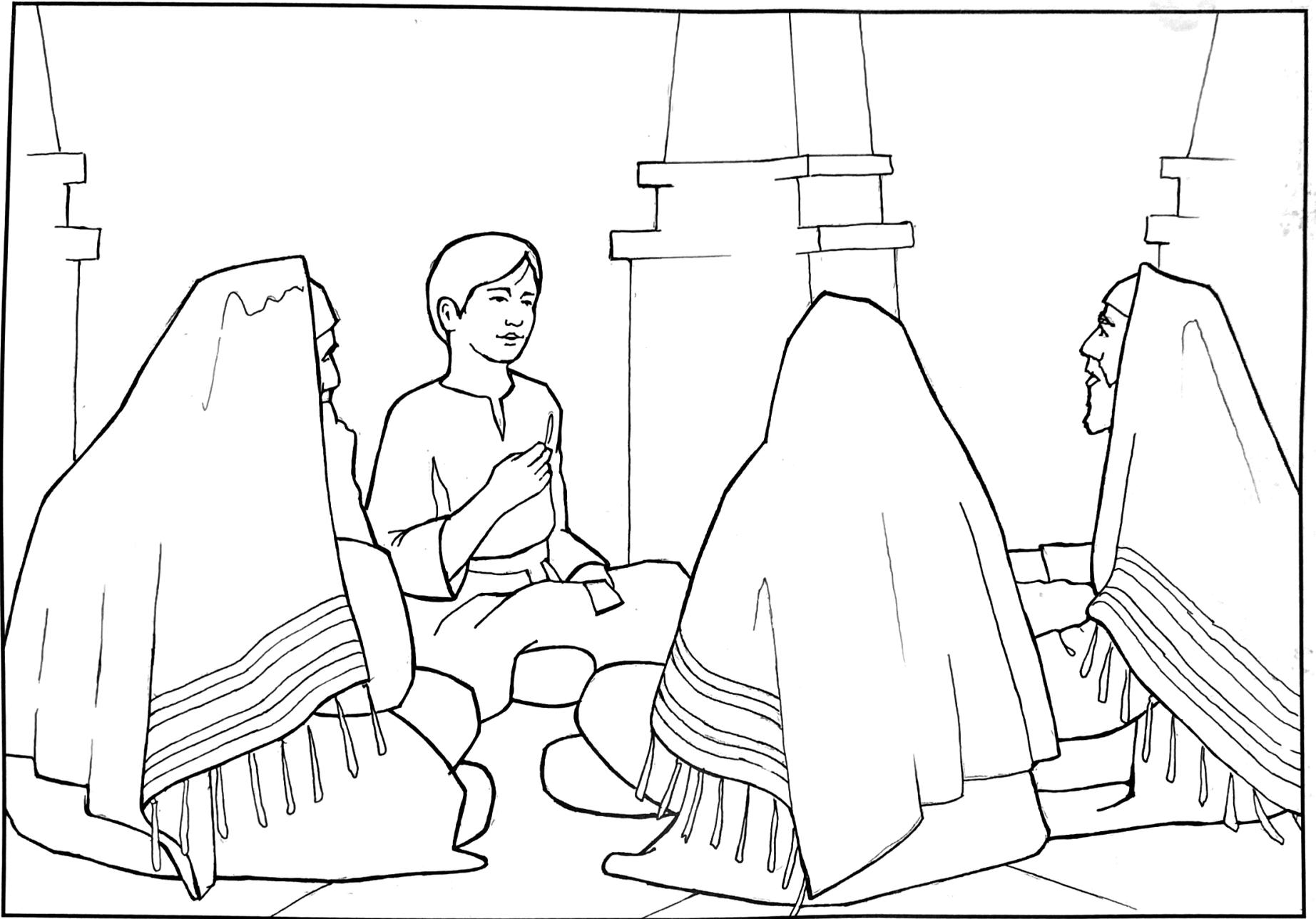
Q. Where did Mary and Joseph find Jesus?

A. At the temple (church)

Q. Who was Jesus talking about with the temple leaders?

A. God.





Encounter in the Temple