



SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: LUKE 2:41-45

PROPS: Straws of different length, poster, boy Jesus in felt or paper with sticky back on Jesus.

ACTIVITY 1: Opening Prayer (2 minutes)

ACTIVITY 2: Verse for the day (5 minutes)

Luke 2

49. ...” *Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?”*

ACTIVITY 3: Game Time (7 minutes)

ACTIVITY 4: Today’s Story- “Jesus Gets Lost” (5 minutes)

ACTIVITY 5: Draw the story **optional (5 minutes)

ACTIVITY 6: Remember the verse- *Luke 2: 49* (2 minutes)

ACTIVITY 7: Sticker Time.

(Where do you want your sticker- head, heart, or hand?)

(2 minutes)

ACTIVITY 8: Closing prayer and clean up (3 minutes)

Junior Church Series
HOW DID JESUS LEARN?
(When Jesus got lost!)

BIBLE REFERENCE:

Luke 2:41-51

PROPS:

- A felt or poster of the Jerusalem Temple.
- A felt or sticky paper of Jesus (as a boy if possible).

THE GAME:

“Pin the Tail on the Donkey” style, have the kids try to place the “Jesus” in the center of the temple.

Characters:

Teacher...(T)

The teacher or assistant can do this as herself or as some other character, such as a clown.

NOTE:

Important words in the lesson are underlined. Key questions to the kids are **underlined and in bold**. Any instructions or answers are in *italics*.

LESSON:

T: **Say, how do kids learn about God today?** (*church, Sunday School, Junior Church, Parents, Friends, Pastor, etc.*)

Well here’s a tough question for you. I bet no one can give me an answer! **As a kid like you, how did Jesus and His friends learned about God?**

You know it was much in the same way as you do. Every Sabbath they’d go to synagogue, that was their local church, and they’d hear the priest talk about God from the scriptures. **Everyone know what The Scriptures are?** ...That’s right, we call it The Bible.

In Jesus time, there was a “head church”. It was much, much bigger than any other in the whole country. It had giant pillars that gleamed white in the sun. At one time, parts of the church were even covered in gold. It was so big, it took up a major part of the city. **Does anyone know where it was?**It was in Jerusalem, and it was called, the Temple.

Talking about Jesus as a boy, and the temple **-does anyone remember that story where Jesus got lost?** It’s in Luke 2:42, and the story goes like this:

A very special thing happened every year in Israel. It was an amazing time. It was like Christmas, Easter, and New Years all wrapped up in one. It was a holy time, a happy time, even a party time all at once and it was called “The Feast of Passover”. You see, hundreds of years earlier, God did an amazing thing. He saved Moses and the Hebrews from the mighty Egyptians. So every spring, for eight days, the city of Jerusalem was bursting at the seams with people. Oh my! Everything was going on there. People would meet old friends, they would come and worship at the totally huge, gigantic, gleaming white temple. They

Junior Church Series
HOW DID JESUS LEARN?

(When Jesus got lost!)

would sing songs from the Haggadah, and there was all kinds of things for kids to learn and do.

One year, when Jesus was a boy, he and his family, and his cousins, and his friends came to Jerusalem for the wonderful "Feast of the Passover". With everything that was going on, Jesus only wanted to see one thing. **Can you guess what it was?** ...That's right, the totally huge, gigantic, gleaming white temple.

Jesus was having such a good time talking with the priests that his parents left Him there with His relatives while they went to do other things. **And guess what happened?** They thought Jesus was coming home with relatives, except they thought Mary and Joseph were coming back ... so Jesus was left behind in a strange big city, in the totally huge, gigantic, gleaming white temple.

Would you be scared if you were left behind in a big strange city? ...me too. Do you think Jesus was scared? **Well guess what He was doing when His parents came back and found Him?** ...yep, He was still right there in the temple talking and learning from the teachers and the priests. And He wasn't even scared, you know why? He was exactly where God wanted Him at that moment, in God's house learning about The Scriptures, and He knew God, His Heavenly Father, would take care of Him.

Wasn't that an exciting story? Has anyone here ever been lost? Things can be confusing and scary when you're lost, can't they? We're not going to let anyone get lost here, but how would you like to play a the "lost game"?

(Choose the first child by drawing straws -explain this method was used in ancient Bible times to let God decide who would do something. Shortest straw goes first, then in order of longer straws.)

(Have the poster up on one wall and blindfold a child. "Pin the tail on the donkey" style, twirl the child, set them off toward the poster to try and place the little "Jesus" in the center of the temple. Repeat with other children.)

So you know what we learned today kids? Being lost can be confusing and scary, but if you listen and learn from God like Jesus did, you'll never have to be lost. *(Move on to activity sheets.)*