

The boy Jesus in the Temple Lk 2:41-52

Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. When Jesus was twelve years old, they went to the festival as usual. When the festival was over, they started back home, but the boy Jesus stayed in Jerusalem. His parents did not know this; they thought that he was with the group, so they traveled a whole day and then started looking for him among their relatives and friends. They did not find him, so they went back to back to Jerusalem looking for him. On the third day they found him in the Temple, sitting with the Jewish teachers, listening to them and asking questions. All who heard him were amazed at his intelligent answers. His parents were astonished when they saw him, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been terribly worried trying to find you." He answered them, "Why did you have to look for me? Didn't you know that I had to be in my Father's house? But they did not understand his answer. So Jesus went back with them to Nazareth, where he was obedient to them. His mother treasured all the things in her heart. Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and people.

1. What was the place of prayer called where Jesus was found?
2. Where do you pray?
3. What words would you use to describe how Mary felt when she found Jesus after such a long time of looking?

Draw a picture of Jesus' mother finding him in the Temple.

As you celebrate Mother's day and think of this story how would like to say thank you to God for your mother?

Close your eyes and pray to God for your mother.

Hail Mary Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.