GET IT TOGETHER

These kids and parents are having some problems connecting with each other. Help them to communicate and get it together. In each situation, check the solution you would choose or write one of your own.

KEY VERSE

Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. Proverbs 1:8



BIBLE STUDY BASED ON EXODUS 20:12; LUKE 2:41-52

XX2 • 1234

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ou seen this person?

MISUNDERSTOOD

¹The temple Jesus knew was the one King Herod started building about 20 B.c. **E** very spring, Mary and Joseph traveled from Nazareth to the temple in Jerusalem¹ to celebrate the Passover² feast. This feast recalled the first Passover meal that their ancestors had eaten on the



night they were freed from slavery in Egypt. Just as the Israelites had done that night, Jesus and His parents would eat roast lamb, bitter herbs, and unleavened bread.

Although each Jewish town had a synagogue for worship, there was only one temple, the one in Jerusalem. When Jesus was 12 years old,³ He could finally go along with Mary and Joseph.

Read Luke 2:43-44. What did Jesus do when Mary and Joseph started back home? Why didn't Jesus' parents miss Him right away?



When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem

Luke 2:45-50

to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts,



²Sacrifices were a part of Passover, and these could be made only at the temple. That's why was necessary to make the trip to Jerusalem.



³From the time a Jewish boy turned 12, he was required to attend the Passover in Jerusalem.

sitting among the teachers,⁴ listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers.

How do you think Mary and Joseph felt while they were looking for Jesus? What was Jesus doing when they found Him? Have you ever gotten lost? How did your parents react?

When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

All parents misunderstand their children sometimes. Why might it have been even easier for Jesus' parents to misunderstand Him? What caused the misunderstanding between Jesus and His parents? How do you think the

misunderstanding might have been avoided?

Jesus gave us a good example of how we can respect and honor our parents, even when they don't seem to understand us.

Read Exodus 20:12 and Luke 2:51-52. How did Jesus honor His parents in spite of the fact that they didn't understand Him? What was Mary's response? What was Jesus' reward for honoring His parents? (Hint: see verse 52.) ⁴These men had studied God's laws in great detail. They spent hours teaching, explaining, and defending the Scriptures.



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4

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