“I HAD TO BE IN MY FATHER’S HOUSE”

Luke 2:41–52

Key Verse: 2:49

1. What was the Festival of the Passover? (41; cf. 22:1; Ex12:1–11; Dt16:1–8) What was the journey from Nazareth to Jerusalem like? Why does the author mention that Jesus’ parents did this “every year”?
2. How old was Jesus this time? (42) What education did Jewish boys receive at this age? What did the boy Jesus do, and how could his parents be unaware of it for a whole day? (43,44a) Where did they first look for him? (44b) What did they have to do? (45) When and where did they find him? (46)
3. Read verse 46. What was being taught in the temple courts? How is the boy Jesus’ interaction with the teachers described? How could a twelve-year-old stay so interested for three days? How did everyone react? (47) In what sense is he special, and in what sense ordinary? What can children, and all people, learn from him? (Ps119:20,97–100)
4. How did his parents react? (48a) What did his mother say to him, and why? (48b) What did he ask her in reply? (49) What was his priority? How could he be so clear about his identity and life’s purpose? How is he an example for us? Why did his parents not understand? (50) What did Jesus do? (51a) Why? What did his mother do? (51b)
5. How is Jesus described? (52) Why is growing in these ways important? What accounts for his growth?