

**Home Alone Jesus Edition – (v. 41-45)**

This passage deals with Jesus before His earthly ministry.

<sup>41</sup> *Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover.* <sup>42</sup> *And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom.* <sup>43</sup> *And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it,* <sup>44</sup> *but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances,* <sup>45</sup> *and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.*

Passover – One of three festivals that Jewish men were required to attend in Jerusalem. The Passover celebrated the death angel passing over the first born of Israel while they were captive in Egypt. Jesus is now 12 and in Jewish custom a boy had a bar mitzvah at age 13. A boy becomes a man.

Jesus stays back in Jerusalem but it is not known if it is intentional or unintentional. Joseph and Mary assume that Jesus is with the traveling party of family.

<sup>46</sup> *After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.* <sup>47</sup> *And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.*

Jesus caused Israel's leading teachers to be amazed. They realize that something "supernatural" is happening.

He starts with asking questions and he is not trying to upstage the teachers. They had no idea who this Jesus was. (Undercover Boss reference)

Why does Jesus ask them questions? To see what they know? To see what they understand or what they will say?

Jesus does not reveal Who He is but remains humble and respectful of the authority over Him.

**Respect My Authority**

<sup>48</sup> *And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress."*

His parents are astonished (3 days of worry and travel and frustration)

Mom speaks first and her focus is on them, not Him. "Why have you treated us so?"

Mary allowed her circumstances to blur the true reality of Who Jesus is. It is easy for us to put ourselves of the center.

<sup>49</sup> *And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"*

The first recorded word of Jesus is Why? (not a jerk Jesus statement but more than likely a tone of reminding them of Who He really is.)

<sup>50</sup> *And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them.*

Mary and Joseph are not totally catching on here. They possibly had forgotten.

What are some times and things that you are prone to forget as you live?

*<sup>51</sup> And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup> And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.*

Jesus models submission and out of grace, He defers to His earthly parents. Mary treasures up that grace that Jesus extended.

What does this example of extending grace look like in your life? In marriage? In your job?  
What are some areas that you need to submit?

Jesus increased in wisdom – stature - favor with God and with man.

What might these look like in your life?  
How do you grow in wisdom with fellow humans?  
How might you grow in stature?  
How might you grow in favor with God and man?

What are some ways that you will choose to submit to those that God has placed in authority over you?  
If you have children, maybe what they need to see most in order to learn what submission looks like, is to see you submitting.

Take prayer requests and spend time praying for one another.