

Lesson: When Jesus Was A Child (Luke 2:41-52)

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Children's Church Lesson: Jesus at Age 12

Text: Luke 2:41-52

Learning Objectives: After this lesson . . .

Children will demonstrate knowledge of Jesus' character as a young boy ... by answering the question "What was Jesus like when he was twelve years old?"

Target Age: Kindergarten – 5th

Download: [When Jesus Was A Child](#)

Items Needed:

Marked Bible for this passage. Prepare the copy in advance by highlighting the significant points to emphasize and underlining items that will need additional explanation.

Explanation: This passage has a strong Gospel implication for children. Jesus was fully human and fully God. In his character we see the model and standard for righteousness in children. However, all children have sinned and not followed after Christ in these ways. Through the Gospel his perfect righteousness can become their own.

One Page Teaching Plan

Hook: Ask the children, “What do you think Jesus was like when he was a child?” Allow several volunteers to answer. Say, “All of these are good guesses, but to know what Jesus was really like we must look in the Bible. And the Bible tells us! In our lesson today, we will find out what Jesus was like when he was a boy. Jesus is our best example of what God wants you to be like as a child.”

Book: Listen carefully while I read from the Bible. I am reading from Luke chapter two. Listen for what Jesus was like when he was a boy.

Read (and summarize) Luke 2:41-52. (Read with emotion and pause often to engage the children with the reading.) Be sure to emphasize the following ideas in your exposition.

- Jesus was a real boy. He was fully human and fully God. He grew up, had birthdays, and learned just like you.
- Jesus listened carefully to Bible teachers.
- Jesus always obeyed his parents.
- Jesus said, “I must be in my Father’s house.”

Ask the children to report on what they learned about Jesus from the story. Ask, “What was Jesus like when he was a child?” The answers should be closely related to the points of emphasize listed above.

Yes or No: Read the following list of sentences. Ask the children to stand up for each sentence that tells something this story actually teaches about Jesus as a child. If the sentence was not taught in the story stay seated. Say, “Some of these ideas may have been true, but we can’t be sure if it isn’t in the Bible.

Jesus always made “As” in school.	Jesus played Soccer
Jesus liked to listen and ask questions from Bible teachers.	Jesus went to the Temple and worshiped God.
Jesus always obeyed his parents.	Jesus had two dogs he loved to play with.

Missing Word: Read these sentences and leave out the underlined words. Ask for volunteers to fill in the missing word as you read the following sentences:

- Jesus said, “I must be in my Father’s house.”
- Jesus liked to listen and ask questions from Bible teachers.
- Jesus always obeyed his parents.

Look: Mini Lecture: There are two lessons for you in this story.

1. Jesus is your example. He shows you what you should be like as a child. Remember that Jesus was a real human just like you. He was fully God and fully human. Even more if you call yourself a “Christian.”
2. Jesus’ example shows us we need to be saved. You do not perfectly obey your parents. Its not because you’re a kid. It’s because of your sin. It’s because you don’t want to obey your parents. We need God to take away our sins and give us new heart. And that is what He promises to do if we will repent and trust in Jesus.

Took: Pray that God will help us to trust in Jesus to forgive our sins.

Need more help? Browse my free [Children’s Church Curriculum](#) or Sunday School Lessons. You can also find many [Bible crafts](#) online.

And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house? Luke 2:49



Don't Miss Jesus

Bible Craft Ideas from Luke 2:41-52



Craft Ideas for the Boy Jesus in the Temple

The only story we seem to get in the Bible describing the childhood life of Jesus is an interesting one. It would seem that Mary and Joseph “lost” their son, but Jesus was right where He knew He should be. In this passage, we note how

Jesus knew that He was God’s Son, although He was growing as a human, as well. This might be tough to understand—it was for Joseph and Mary, too! Children can take away from these verses the importance of following God and also obeying Earthly parents. It’s also significant to note that we don’t have to “search” for Jesus. He’s with us always! A scroll craft reminds students of temple readings, and of how parents and God can both be cherished. A maze recounts the story of looking for Jesus through the busy streets.

Bible Verses or Craft Captions to Consider... (Luke 2:41-52)

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man. -Luke 2:52

49 And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?”50 And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. -Luke 2:49-50

Keep seeking HIM...follow Jesus!

Keep JESUS in the center!

Don't miss Jesus!

I follow God by..... / I follow my parents by.....

More Teaching Ideas:

- Watch the teaching demonstration of this [children’s sermon](#) and related [Bible crafts](#)
- Compare our full [Sunday School](#) and [Bible Lesson about boy Jesus visiting the temple](#)
- See all our [Christmas lesson ideas](#) and [Sunday School Curriculum](#)

Craft one: "Serve Man and God Scroll"

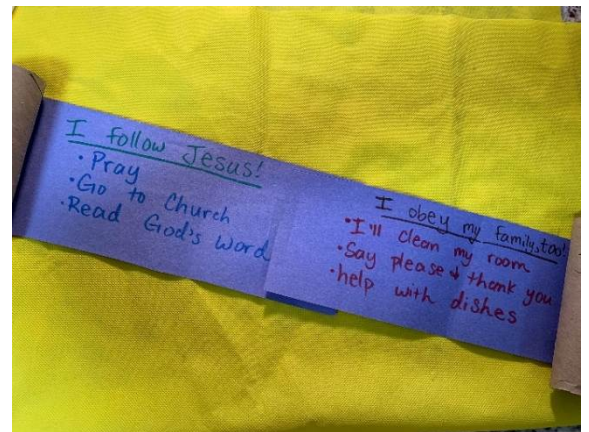
You will need:

- Paper towel or toilet paper tubes
- Scissors
- Markers and/or crayons
- Construction paper or cardstock
- Stickers and decorations
- Glue, stapler, or tape



Procedure:

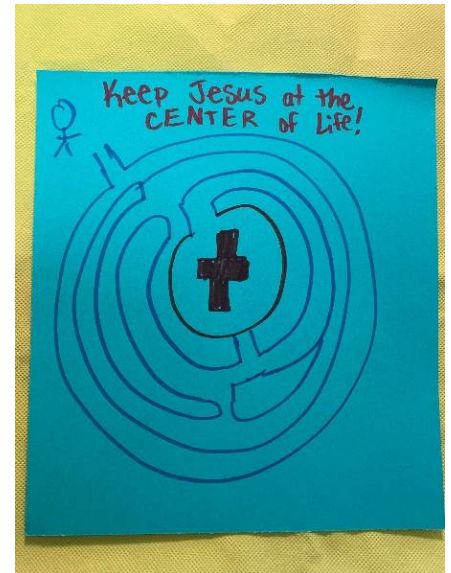
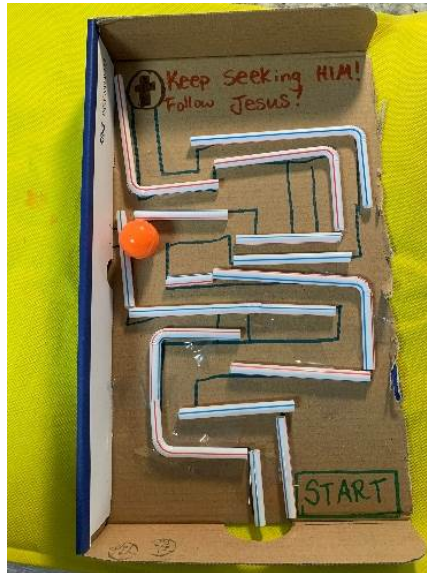
1. Cut the paper towel tube, or use two toilet paper tubes.
2. Assemble a long thin strip of paper to stretch between the tubes. Tape or staple together as necessary.
3. On one side of the paper, list methods of obeying and following God's rules. On the other, write ideas for obeying parents and authority.
4. Attach the papers to the tubes. Roll and tie as desired.
5. Add extra decorations, if wished. Read the "scroll" to recount ways to serve God and man, as Jesus did!



Craft Two: "Keep Jesus at the Center Maze"

You will need:

- Markers/crayons
- Construction paper or card stock
- Decorations (stickers, etc.)
- Scissors
- Captions/verses
- Straws or popsicle sticks
- Tape or glue
- Shoebox lid or cardboard
- Small ball or marble (optional)



Procedure:

1. Design a maze structure on paper or cardboard, choosing a centralized location or point to point structure. Place a cross as the center or goal to reach.
2. Glue or tape sticks or straws to make the maze 3-dimensional.
3. Add verses or captions as desired.
4. If developing the 3-D box, roll a marble or ball through the "walls."
5. If maze design is on paper, use a pencil to work through the maze.



Thank you for downloading these free materials. Our team is grateful for your trust and pray that God will bless your ministry.

This resource was prepared by [Kristin Schmidt](#) (pictured right). She serves at the Epiphany Lutheran Church in Castle Rock, CO. She has shared her teaching gifts through *Ministry-To-Children* since 2014 and now serves as our lead curriculum writer.



Every week she writes new [Sunday School lessons](#), [Bible crafts](#), and [children's sermons](#).

Kristin has a professional background in elementary and pre-school education. A graduate of Biola University, she holds a Master of Education and will receive the Master of Theology degree from Concordia University, Irvine, California, in May 2020. Kristin grew up in southern California and lived the past 10 years in Georgia. She is a long-distance runner and voracious reader.

My name is Tony Kummer (pictured below). I started Ministry-To-Children.com in 2007 as a free resource for anyone sharing Jesus with kids. It is my personal honor to share these resources with churches around the world.



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If you enjoy our material, be sure to [sign-up for my free email newsletter](#) called "Sunday School Works!" Every Tuesday, I send the latest new lessons, crafts, and coloring pages in print-friendly format to make your lesson planning easy.

May God continue to bless your ministry!

Tony Kummer