

# Jesus at Twelve

(Based on Luke 2:41-52)

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Every year at the Passover feast, Mary and Joseph took their family to Jerusalem. One year they had a terrible scare. They had traveled a day on their return trip home, when they realized Jesus was not with them.



Mary and Joseph searched among their relatives and the people that they were traveling with. “Have you seen Jesus?” they asked.



"He's not here!" sobbed Mary.  
"We lost Jesus!" "Come, let's go  
back to Jerusalem and look for  
him," said Joseph.



For three days they had been looking for Jesus, when at last they looked at the temple. Someone at the temple was asking the bible smart guys hard questions and they were doing their best to answer.



Then the person who asked the questions gave the answers.

"That's Jesus talking!" gasped Mary. He's been here the whole time!"



Mary marched over to the discussion circle and barged in. "Excuse me Mister. Excuse me Mister," said Mary.



"Why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been searching and worrying about you!" "Why were you looking for me Mother?" answered Jesus. "Didn't you know that I must be doing my Father's business?"

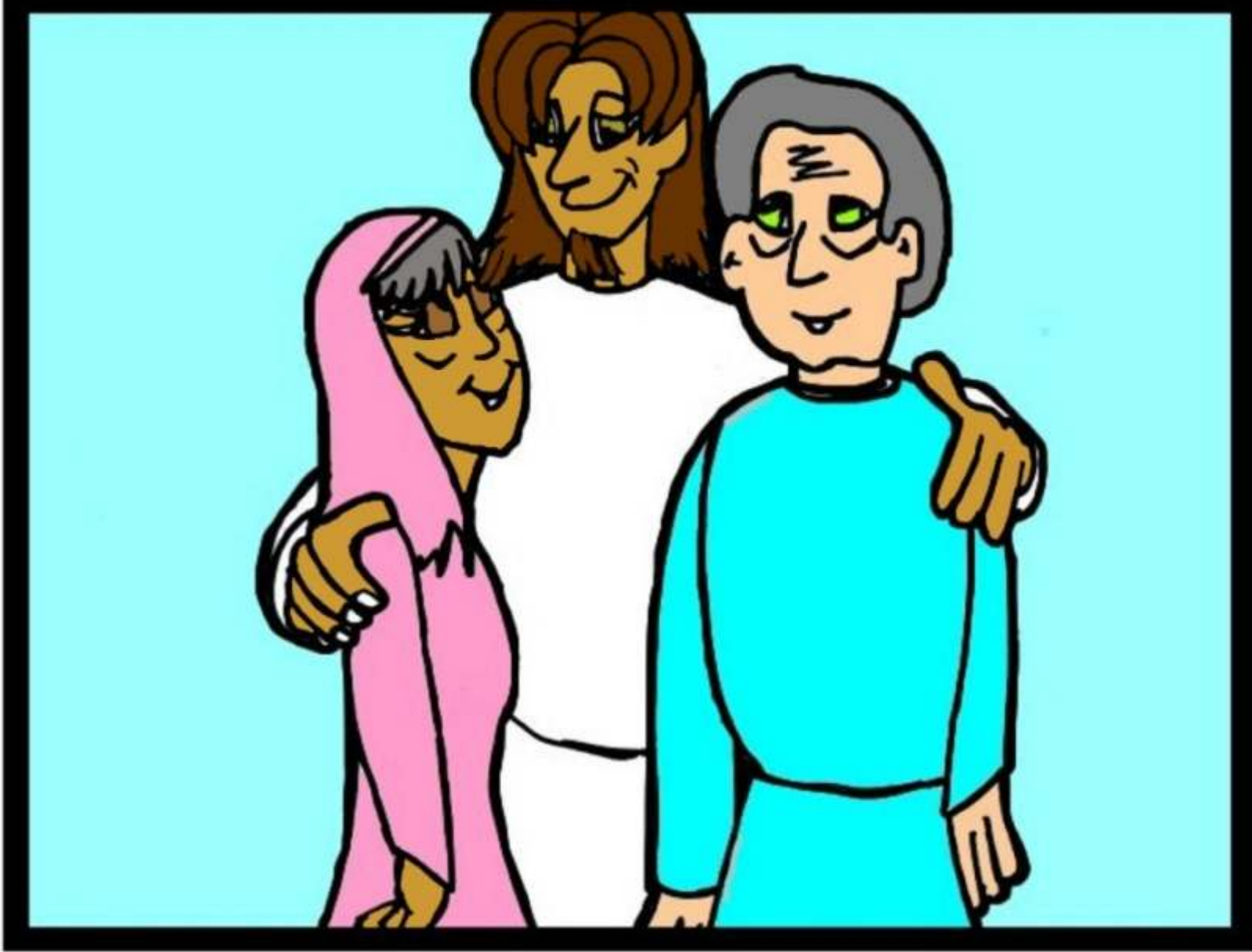




Mary and Joseph looked at each other and said, "Huh? What's he talking about?" They did not understand what Jesus had said to them.



"See ya later," said Jesus to the bible wise guys. "I'm going home with my mom." "He's the smartest 12-year-old I ever met! What incredible questions and answers he has," said the Bible scholars.



Jesus went home to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph and he obeyed them. He grew strong and tall and wise. God loved him and people loved him too.



Lord, help me to be serious about your plan for my life like Jesus was, even when he was a kid. Help me to understand your Word.