

Lesson Aim: To grow in our understanding of how Jesus increasingly grasped who He was and what He came to do.

Prayer: Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your personal study time and/or group discussion time.

Icebreaker: Did you ever get lost as a child? What happened? (Or... Have you ever lost a child? What happened?)

1. **READ Luke 2:41-42.** The Passover festival that Joseph & Mary celebrated every year is described in **Deuteronomy 16:1-7**. Turn to Deuteronomy and read these verses. What was the significance of this feast?
2. **Read Luke 2:43-51.** How much does Jesus seem to know about His mission? How much do Mary & Joseph seem to know?
3. If you had been Mary or Joseph, what do you think you would have said to Jesus after searching for him for three days?
4. Has your hunger for God ever been misunderstood by family or close friends? How?
5. What stress did you go through with your parents when you transitioned into adolescence and the teenage years? How did you deal with that stress?
6. If you are a parent, what stress have you experienced due to changes in your children's lives? How do you deal with that stress?
7. **Read Luke 2:52.** Because He was fully human, Jesus went through the normal growth process every healthy human being goes through – He grew physically, intellectually, spiritually, and relationally. Growing up, in which of these areas did growth come easiest for you? Which was the hardest?
8. Looking at these four areas of growth in Luke 2:52, which if any would you like to see growth in? What could be your first step in moving towards growth in that area?
9. **2 Peter 1:5-10** describes specific qualities that are vital for spiritual growth. **READ these verses.** Why is progress in these areas so desirable for a follower of Christ?
10. Of the seven qualities listed in verses 5-7, what is one quality where you would like to grow in the most? What is something you can do to grow in this quality? How could focusing on this quality help in how you answered Question #8?

Close in prayer as the Lord leads you.

This **LifeGroup** Study Guide is designed to help you apply Sunday's message. You can do this homework on your own; however we encourage you to check out our warm and friendly message-based **LifeGroups!** Get a copy of this Study Guide at theBridgeFresno.com by clicking on the "Resources" link.

Luke 2:41 – 52

INTRODUCTION

LOSING THE SAVIOR (Luke 2:41-46a)

❶ THE TRIP

PRINCIPLE #1: True faith will always cost you something.

❷ THE TIME

- ▶ Passover feast
- ▶ Bar Mitzvah preparation

PRINCIPLE #2: There is a time in life when God expects every human being to act responsibly before Him.

❸ THE MISTAKE (v.43)

APPLICATION: How long does it take you to notice when Jesus is missing from your life?

THE PANICKED SEARCH (Luke 2:46a)

- ▶ Day #1: Group travel to a prearranged destination
- ▶ Day #2: Frantic travel (alone) back to Jerusalem
- ▶ Day #3: Eventually find Jesus in the Temple area

WHERE THEY FIND HIM (Luke 2:46-48)

PRINCIPLE #3: No one will ever speak to you more powerful, life-giving words than Jesus.

THE FIRST RECORDED WORDS OF JESUS (Luke 2:49-50)

CONCLUSION (Luke 2:51-52)

- ▶ Even at the early age of 12, Jesus already knew He was the Son of God

PRINCIPLE #4: At every stage, Jesus was perfect for that stage.