Talk About It:

- What is your favorite game to play? Ask a grown-up what their favorite game was when they were your age.
- Have you ever been lost from your parents? How did it make you feel? How long were you lost?

Read About It:

There are just a few stories in the Bible about Jesus as a child. Here is one of them from Luke 2:41-52*:

Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. When Jesus was twelve years old, they went to the festival as usual. When the festival was over, they went home, but Jesus stayed in Jerusalem. His parents did not know about it. They traveled for a whole day thinking that Jesus was with them in the group. They began looking for him among their family and close friends, but they did not find him. So they went back to Jerusalem to look for him there.

After three days they found him. Jesus was sitting in the Temple area with the religious teachers, listening and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and wise answers. When his parents saw him, they wondered how this was possible. And his mother said, "Son, why did you do this to us? Your father and I were very worried about you. We have been looking for you."

Jesus said to them, "Why did you have to look for me? You should have known that I must be where my Father's work is." But they did not understand the meaning of what he said to them.

Jesus went with them to Nazareth and obeyed them. His mother was still thinking about all these things. As Jesus grew taller, he continued to grow in wisdom. God was pleased with him and so were the people who knew him.

- How do you think Mary and Joseph felt when they could not find Jesus for three days?
- Do you think Mary and Joseph were angry when they finally found Jesus?
- What does the Bible tells us Jesus did when they got home to Nazareth?

*Easy-To-Read Version, Copyright © 2006 by Bible League International

Sing About It:

Jesus wanted to follow his Father, and we can decide to follow Jesus. It's time to sing about it!

<u>I Have Decided</u> (Lifetree Kids, Cave Quest VBS Music Video, Group Publishing)

Think About It:

- Jesus was in the middle of learning at the temple when his parents found him. Have you ever had to stop doing something because your grown-ups asked you to? Who did Jesus obey?
- If Jesus obeyed his parents, do you think it's important for you to obey the grownups in your house?
- How are you growing up strong and wise?

Make It:

Supplies: Empty plastic water or drink bottle; funnel (or piece of paper); rice or sand; small picture of Jesus (see instructions); tape; small objects such as beads, pom poms, sequins, jewels, etc.; hot glue.

Jesus was lost for three whole days! How do you think Mary and Joseph felt when they were looking for him?

Use the instructions at the end of this lesson to make your own "I Spy Jesus" bottle.

Do It:

Jesus knew that it was important for him to stay close to God. Here are some ways you can stay close to God and grow in your understanding of God:

- Find a quiet place to talk to God today. Tell God about the important things in your life and the hard things in your life and ask God to help you stay close to Him.
- Take a walk outside (bundle up if you need to!) and look at the wonderful things God has made. Tell God how thankful you are for His creation.
- Write a prayer to God and ask God to help you follow Jesus now and always.

Pray About It:

Thank Jesus for showing us how to stay close to God, obey our parents, and grow up to be strong and wise.

Memorize It:

You must do what is right and good—what pleases the Lord. Deuteronomy 6:18

I Spy Jesus Craft

You will need: Empty plastic water or drink bottle (completely dry) Funnel (a rolled piece of paper works well) Rice or sand Small picture of Jesus (print from this page) Tape Small objects such as beads, pom poms, sequins, jewels, shapes, etc. Hot glue

- 1. Cut out the picture of Jesus. Fold it over and tape it to make it double-sided.
- 2. Use the funnel to fill the empty bottle ³/₄ full of rice or sand.
- 3. Add several small items to your bottle.
- 4. Use hot glue to secure the cap onto the bottle.
- 5. Shake and mix up the contents of the bottle. Can you find Jesus?

Print this:



Your finished I Spy Jesus bottle will look like this:

