

Community Group Study Guide
For the Week of January 22nd - 28th

Please read Luke 2:41-52

1. Were Mary and Jesus required by the Law to attend the Passover Feast? (See Deuteronomy 16:16; Ex 23:14-17)

a. What was celebrated at the Passover Feast?

2. Why were the teachers in the temple amazed (Luke 2:47)?

a. Do you think he was teaching them things about the Law that they didn't already know? Please explain.

b. Were his parents astonished for the same reason (Luke 2:48)? Why or why not?

3. In Mary's question to Jesus, "Son, why have you treated us so?" do you think that she is accusing him of deception, betrayal, disobedience, irresponsibility or insensitivity? Why? (See Genesis 12:18; 20:9; 26:10; 29:25; Exodus 14:11; Numbers 23:11; Judges 15:11)

a. Do you think that the distress she experienced here was the beginning of the fulfillment of Simeon's prophecy in Luke 2:35? Please explain your answer.

4. Read 1 Samuel 1:20-28 and compare the birth narrative with the story of Samuel. Also compare the Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) with Hannah's prayer in 1 Samuel 2:1-10.

a. Do you find in Jesus' first recorded words (Luke 2:49) an implication that his proper place was in the temple, as was Samuel's? Please explain your answer.

b. Do you think his response is a reproach, or does it reflect genuine surprise that they did not know where to find him? Why do you think this?

c. Is there tension between Jesus' devotion to God and his filial devotion to his earthly parents? (See Mark 3:31-35; 10:29; Luke 11:27-28; 9:59-62; 14:26; John 2:4; 7:3-10)