

# “The Child In the Temple”

New Hope Community Church

February 10th, 2019 / Luke 2:41-52

# Life Group Meeting

Luke 2:41-52

## A. The Importance of the Passover (41)

### 1. The nature of the feast

- To be celebrated every year in **Jerusalem** (Dt 16)
- The meal included a **lamb**, bitter herbs, & unleavened bread
- Passover was followed by seven days of eating without **leaven**

### 2. The significance of the Passover & Feast of Unleavened Bread

- Israel must always remember God delivering them from **death**
  - (1) The lamb had been a **substitute** for God’s judgment
  - (2) Bitter herbs were a reminder of the **bitterness** of slavery
  - (3) Unleavened bread spoke of the **haste** of Israel’s departure
- Israel must always remember God delivering them from **slavery**
  - (1) They left Egypt in **freedom**
  - (2) They left Egypt in **haste**

### 3. The ultimate fulfillment of the feasts (1 C 5:6-8)

- Jesus is the Passover Lamb, God’s **Firstborn** killed in my place
- I have been set free from the bitterness of slavery to **sin**
- I am to fully **separate** myself from sin, symbolized by leaven

## B. Jesus At the Age of Twelve (42-52)

### 1. He possessed a deep knowledge of the **Scriptures** (46,47)

- His spirit was totally alive rather than **infected** with sin
- His efforts to learn truth were **unhindered** by the temporal

### 2. He possessed a clear understanding of His **identity** (49)

### 3. He possessed a true heart of **submission** according to priorities (51)

### 4. He possessed a full sense of **responsibility** in all things (52)

## C. The Human and The Divine

### 1. Was Jesus mistreating his earthly parents as Mary suggested?

- He was first and foremost in submission to the Father’s will
- At age 12 he had opportunity to engage with religious leaders
- Jesus did not leave Joseph & Mary, but somehow they left him!

### 2. How much of the divine nature of Jesus was displayed in His childhood?

- This is truly more than we are capable of understanding
- As fully God, the divine nature was always **present**
- As fully man, Jesus voluntarily laid aside the full use of His divine attributes to **serve** (Phil 2:6,7)

## QUESTIONS

1) Read Luke 2:41-52

2) Discuss together the significance of the Passover celebration for the people of Israel, along with the purpose of the three elements of the feast — lamb, bitter herbs, and unleavened bread.

3) Read I Cor 5:6-8. In light of how leaven is used symbolically in this passage, why do you suppose God said not only was leaven not to be eaten for seven days, but it was not even to be seen within the borders of the country? (Ex 13:7 / Dt. 16:4) Anyone who disobeyed was to be “cut off” from Israel. What application might this have for us?

4) What does it mean that Christ is our Passover?

5) Do you think the knowledge and wisdom Jesus showed at age 12 in the Temple was a demonstration of His deity, or of his humanity? Why?

6) Why did Mary and Joseph not understand the statement, “Did you not know that I had to be in My Father’s house”? (vs 49,50)

7) If Jesus did not fully use His divine attributes while on earth, in what sense can we say with confidence that He was still fully God?

8) Prayer for one another