

Lent
2024

COME & SEE WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE

Joseph and Mary begin to see what Jesus is about.

Lent is traditionally a time of reflection for followers of Jesus. We examine our lives, faith, actions, interactions, and motivations. We often overlook or minimize the importance of this last part; our motivation. Why we do what we do is a keystone facet of our faith.

When we investigate the life of Jesus in his youth, we find an exciting story of how he felt compelled to stay behind after celebrating the Feast of the Passover in Jerusalem. We read his story from Luke 2:43-52. And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

This episode in the life of Jesus shares a lesson for you and me. If we seek to elevate our standing among our peers by our actions, we have failed Jesus. When we seek to glorify God, we reflect the essence of our Savior's ministry. He was obedient, even to death on the cross, to fulfill the will of His Father. We must follow the example Jesus sets in our motivation for what we do. We must seek to do the will of the Father and not seek man's approval.

Leaning on Jesus

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