

mediately returned to Jerusalem to look for their son.

After searching for three days, they found him in the Temple, the Jewish center for worship and for academic and religious studies. Great teachers and promising students gathered at the Temple to discuss issues of faith and questions about God. When Jesus' parents found him there, he was asking the teachers questions and discussing with them his thoughts about God.

How exciting it must have been for a twelve-year-old boy to talk with the important scholars in the Temple. And how upsetting for his parents who had been so worried. Mary asked Jesus, "Why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been frantic, searching for you everywhere" (Luke 2:48, NLT).

Jesus's calm response shows that he understood his relationship

