



THEY RETURNED TO JERUSALEM IN SEARCH OF HIM

12/30/18 Luke 2: 41-52 & 1 Sam . 1:20-22, 24-28

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**ENTERING THE SCENE :**

Fr. Richard Rohr says: "Wisdom is not the gathering of more facts and information, as if that would eventually coalesce into truth. Wisdom is precisely a different way of seeing and knowing the "ten thousand things" in a new way. I suggest that wisdom is precisely the freedom to be truly present to what is right in front of you. Presence is wisdom! People who are fully present know how to see fully, rightly, and truthfully." Luke tells us that Jesus was obedient, which in its deepest sense is one who listens and in order to listen we must be present and attentive. We enter another year celebrating family together while at the same time listening in order to grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and each other.

Luke 2: 41-52

41 **Every year** his **parents** went to **Jerusalem** for the Feast of the **Passover**. 42 When he was **twelve** years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the **custom**. 43 After the Feast was over, while his

**parents** were returning home, the **boy Jesus** stayed behind in **Jerusalem**, but they were **unaware** of it. 44 Thinking he was in their **company**, they traveled on for a day. Then they began **looking** for him among their **relatives** and **friends**. 45 When they did not find him, they went back to **Jerusalem** to look for him. 46 After **three days** they **found** him in the temple courts, sitting among **the** teachers, **listening** to them and asking them **questions**. 47 Everyone who heard him was **amazed** at his **understanding** and his answers. 48 When his **parents** saw him, they were **astonished**. His **mother** said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your **father** and I have been **anxiously searching** for you." 49 Why were you **searching** for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my **Father's** house?" 50 But they did not **understand** what he was saying to them. 51 Then he went down to **Nazareth** with them and was **obedient** to them. But his **mother treasured** all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus grew in **wisdom** and **stature** and in favor with God and men.

**DISCUSSION QUESTION:** Jesus was listening and questioning in order to learn. His questions amazed the "experts". When was the last time a child asked you a question that amazed you and caused you to come to a new understanding of someone or something?

**PRAYER:** Almost teen Jesus, we hear of your causing anxiety. I sense that there were few anxiety free moments for your parents beginning with the annunciation and the flight into Egypt. Yet we find them journeying to Jerusalem so as to ground you in your faith tradition. Help us as we like Mary and Joseph, live our faith in such a way that our youth are able to amaze us with their understanding and answers. Amen.