



Jesus, Joseph & Mary

How The Holy Family Models Healthy Families

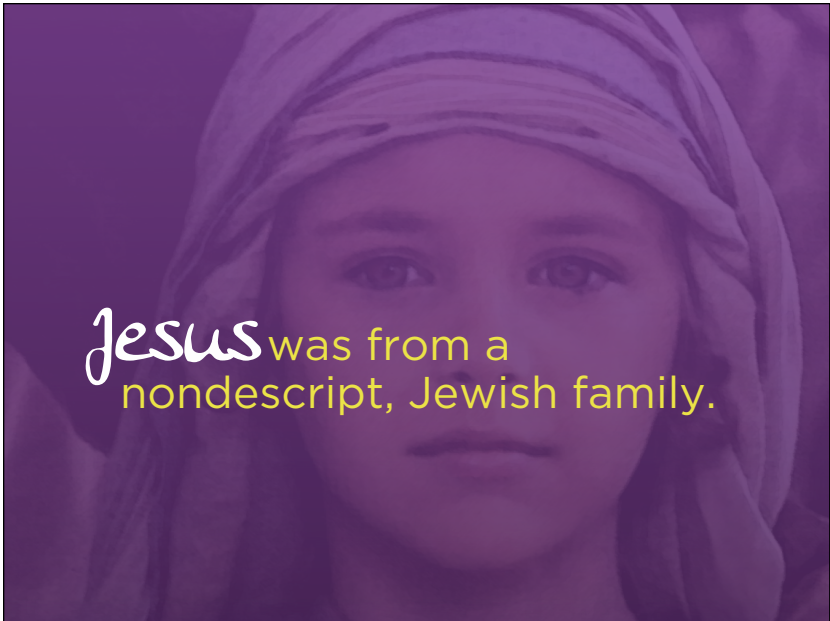
— P A R T 4 —

Jesus, What a Wonderful Child




Mark 6:2-3


As Jesus began to teach in the synagogue, many who heard him were amazed: "Where did this man get these things? What is this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing? Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.



Jesus was from a
nondescript, Jewish family.



Jesus was taught a trade



Jesus' siblings and
neighbors were unaware he
was Messiah-in-waiting.



Luke 2:39-51

[39] When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by God's Law, they returned to Galilee to their hometown of Nazareth. [40] And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.



Luke 2:39-51

[41] Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. [42] When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. [43] After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it.



Luke 2:39-51

[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 didn't find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him.



Luke 2:39-51

[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.



Luke 2:39-51

[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 didn't understand what he was saying to them.



Luke 2:39-51

[51] Then he returned 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 man.



LESSONS IN PARENTING

1

Jesus' parents centered his development upon spiritual matters.

"Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for Passover according to custom." Luke 2:41-42

One of the *best things* a parent does for their children is to have them in church, not just as an exercise in religious activity, but as the central feature of their Christian world-view.



LESSONS IN PARENTING

2

Jesus' parents expected him to exert personal responsibility in social matters.

"Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." Luke 2:48

Creating Expectations

by *Modeling*
you lead; they watch you.

by *Mentoring*
you do; they do it with you.

by *Apprenticing*
they do; you observe, evaluate & fine-tune.

by *Releasing*
they assume a duty; you cheer them on.

LESSONS IN PARENTING

3

Jesus' parents brought him to a decision point about matters of faith.

"Why were you searching for me? Didn't you know I had to be doing my Father's business?" Luke 2:49

The personalization of
the child's faith
is a treasured marker
of the spiritually-minded parent.

HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT *for* HOLY CHILDREN

- ✓ Spiritual Education
- ✓ Personal and Social Responsibility
- ✓ Growth in Faith





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