

3. Jesus says to his parents, “Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house? But they did not understand what he said to them.”
- Why don’t Mary and Joseph understand?
 - What is Jesus saying to them?
 - What is Jesus’ message to you when you find him in unexpected places (for example, in places of hopelessness, need, solitude, busyness, etc.)?
4. After being in ‘his Father’s house,’ Jesus obediently goes to Nazareth to ‘his father’s house.’ And “his mother treasured all these things in her heart.”
- After receiving such anxiety and heartache, what does Mary treasure in her heart?
 - When you think of Jesus, what do you treasure?
 - Are you more amazed, astounded, or astonished by Jesus?

Prayer for this third week of Advent:

“Come, Lord Jesus. Be with us today as we prepare for the celebration of your birth. Open our eyes to the way in which you would have us live” and love. May we be forever amazed, astounded, and astonished amidst your powerful, life-changing presence. Amen.



*Touching heaven, changing earth
with head, heart and hands*

**Sunday, December 11, 2016
Luke 2:41-51**

We offer these questions for reflection during the service or during your week. Ponder them yourself, or discuss them with friends. Many small groups use them for discussion; if you would like to participate in a group, visit www.laumc.org/grouplife.

- From the scripture, we learn that Mary and Joseph search for their son for three days.
 - What keeps them going in this frantic time?
 - In times when you may have “lost” the presence of Jesus in your life, what keeps you going?
- When Mary and Joseph find Jesus in the temple, they are astonished. They say, “Why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.”
 - If you found a lost loved one after searching for three days, what would you say?
 - If you found Jesus after seeking him for a lifetime, what would you say?

