

# ★ About My Father's Business

★ The Purpose of Christ

1st - 3rd Grade  
Lesson 3

It took the wise men a long time to get to where Jesus was. Jesus was no longer a baby by the time they got there:

*And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him.*

—Matthew 2:11

Mary and Joseph and Jesus lived in a house. They were not in the stable anymore. And Jesus was a young child, not a baby.

The wise men brought Jesus gifts that were very expensive. God knew Mary and Joseph needed these gifts to help them take care of His Son.

## **Fulfilling the Law**

God's law said that when a baby boy was born, his mother and father had to bring a lamb for an offering to the Lord. Poor people could bring two turtledoves or two pigeons instead. Mary and Joseph were poor. They brought two turtledoves. They were very careful to obey God's law.

## **Fleeing into Egypt**

King Herod was not happy that Jesus was born. He was afraid Jesus was going to be the new king. He wanted to kill Jesus. But God sent His angel with a message for Joseph:

*Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.*

—Matthew 2:13

Joseph didn't ask any questions. He took Jesus and Mary down to Egypt where they would be safe. God is so wise. He knew they would have to take that long trip. He also knew they would need money to buy food and find a place to stay. It's good the wise men did not give Jesus bags of money as a gift. It would be hard to carry them on their trip. And someone might have robbed them. God led the wise men to give Him gifts that would be easy to carry to Egypt.

Mary and Joseph and Jesus were a long way from home. But they stayed in Egypt until God sent His angel to Joseph with another message.

*But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, Saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel.*

—Matthew 2:19-20a

Joseph obeyed the angel. They all went home to Israel. The angel came to Joseph one more time. He told him to go to a city in Galilee. So Joseph and Mary and Jesus moved to Nazareth. Hundreds of years before, God had told His prophets that Jesus would live in Nazareth.

### **Finding Jesus**

Jesus grew and grew, just like you do. He learned to walk and talk. Before long, He was running and playing like all children do. But there is something special about Jesus. He is God. There is one thing He cannot do. He cannot sin. Jesus never disobeyed Mary and Joseph. He never pouted. He never got mad. He never sinned.

*And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.*

—Luke 2:52

He is a good example for you to follow. He wants you to learn. It is important to do your schoolwork. He wants you to be friendly to others. He also wants you to read God's Word and talk to God in prayer.

Luke 2 tells about a time when Jesus went to the Temple. He listened to God's Word as it was read. He also asked questions. He wanted to know all about His heavenly Father. Mary and Joseph started on their way home. They thought Jesus was with them. But He wasn't. They found Him in the Temple. He told them that He had a job to do. He had to do His heavenly Father's work.

God has a job for you to do. You must find out what it is and do it like Jesus did. Do the things you're supposed to do each day. Then God will be able to show you what else He wants you to do.

### **Teacher's Notes**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---