



**December 30, 2018 Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Lectionary: 17**

**Gospel LK 2:41-52**

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking 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. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

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**Spiritual Reflection:** A Lord who arrived as a baby, not a superman; who grew up obedient to a mother and father, not a child prodigy. How can we improve our families and make them more like the holy family.

**Spiritual Question:**

1. What can we learn about God from the way Jesus entered the world?
2. What can we learn about God's choice to be born into a human family
3. What does Christ's willingness to be born as a baby tell us about our God?
4. How does Jesus' life of obedience affect the way you live your life?
5. How can we improve our family?