

# Ages 3-6: Mary and Joseph Look for Jesus

## Materials Needed

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph Figures*; tape; crayons or markers; stick to hold puppet, e.g. popsicle stick, strip of cardboard, plastic spoon

## Prepare in Advance

Print a copy of the *Jesus, Mary and Joseph Figures* for each child. For a young group, cut puppets apart on the dashed line. Gather other materials.

Mary and Joseph looked for Jesus in Jerusalem for three days. Children will make a “Mary and Joseph” puppet and a “Jesus” puppet to act out the story of them finding Jesus in the temple.

1. Give each child a copy of *Jesus, Mary and Joseph Figures* and crayons or markers. Ask children to color the figures.
2. Using scissors, cut the rectangles around the figures out on the solid black lines to create two separate pictures. Fold each picture along the dotted black line.
3. Tape handles inside each puppet figure. Tape edges as needed.
4. Act out the story of Mary and Joseph finding Jesus in the temple. One person, perhaps the teacher, hides “Jesus” in the “temple” while everyone else covers their eyes. You could hide Jesus near the Word, or someplace where He is tricky to find.
5. Take “Mary and Joseph” on a journey to find Jesus in the temple in Jerusalem.
6. Finish the enactment by bringing Jesus back to “Nazareth” where He obeys “Mary and Joseph” until He grows up.



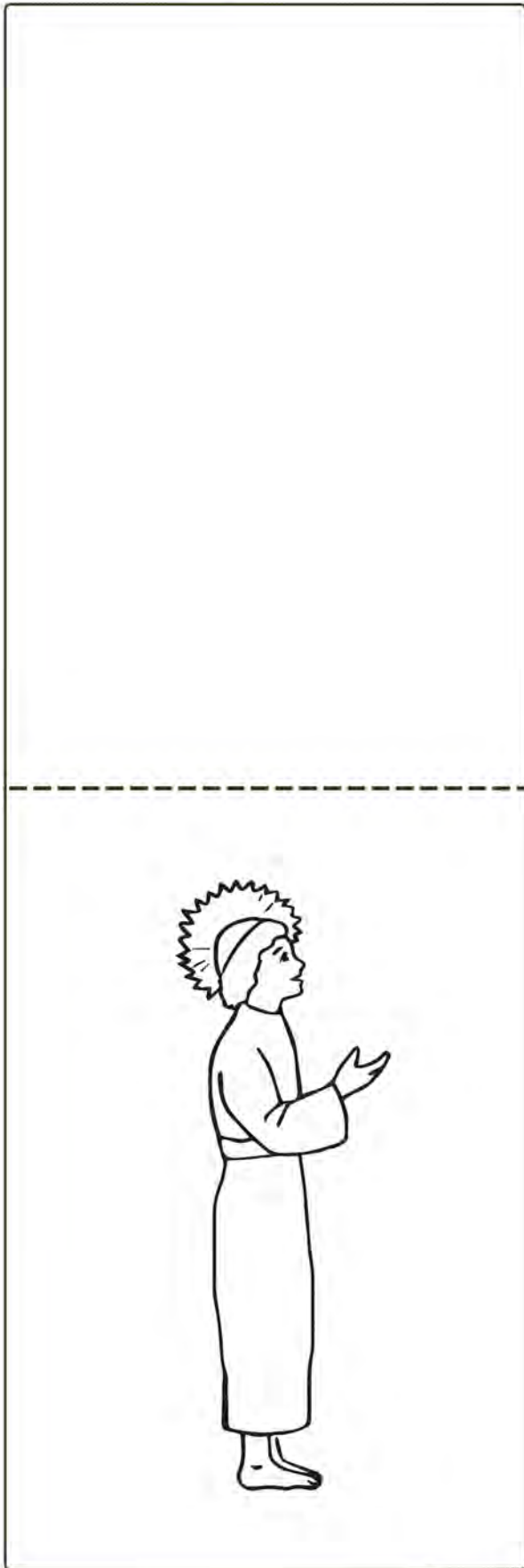
## New Church Concept Teacher Background

Since it was God who descended, and since He is Order itself, it was necessary, if He was to become actually human, that He should be conceived, carried in the womb, born, educated, acquire knowledge gradually, and thereby be introduced into intelligence and wisdom. In respect to His Human He was, for this reason, an infant like other infants, a boy like other boys, and so on; with the sole difference that this development was accomplished in Him more quickly, more fully, and more perfectly than in others. See *True Christian Religion* 89

## New Church Concept Teacher Background

A Divine-heavenly sphere of love continually goes forth from the Lord toward all these who are obedient to Him, who devote themselves to Him, and who wish to be instructed by Him. From this heavenly sphere, a natural sphere arises, which is one of love towards infants and children. This sphere affects people, birds, beasts and inanimate things. But so that the Lord might operate upon these, even as He operates upon spiritual things, He created a sun to be in the natural world like a father, the earth being like a mother. For the sun is like a common father and the earth like a common mother from the marriage of which all vegetation is produced. From the influx of that heavenly sphere into the natural world, come the marvelous developments of vegetation from seed to fruit, and again to new seed. It is from this also that many kinds of plants turn, as it were, their faces to the sun during the day, and turn them away when the sun sets. It is from this also that there are flowers that open at the rising of the sun and close at his setting. It is from this also that the song-birds sing sweetly at the early dawn, and likewise after they have been fed by their mother earth. Thus all these parts of creation honor their father and mother. They all bear testimony that in the natural world the Lord provides, through the sun and the earth, all necessities both for animate and inanimate things. See *True Christian Religion* 308

Commandment 4: Jesus in the Temple



Jesus , Mary and Joseph Figures

