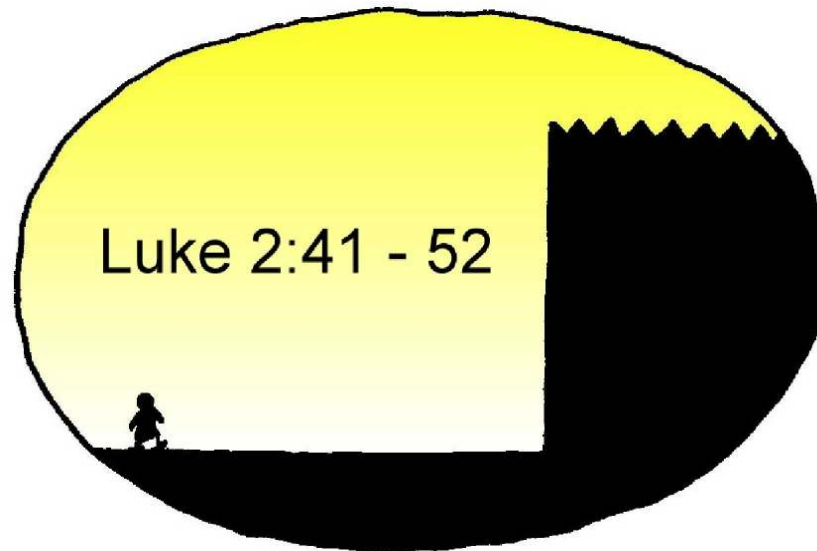


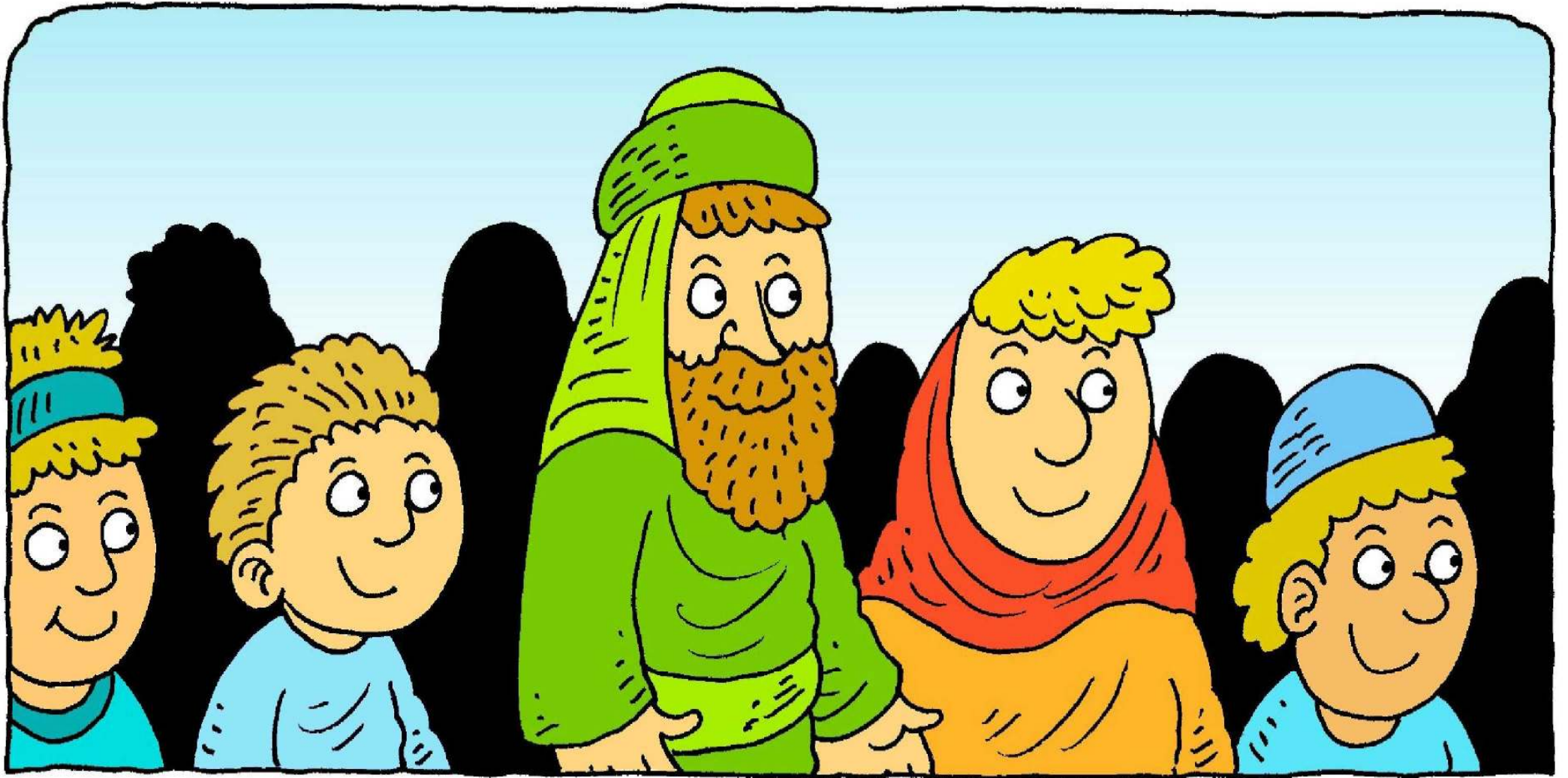
When Jesus Was Twelve

By Jill Kemp
Illustrated by Richard Gunther





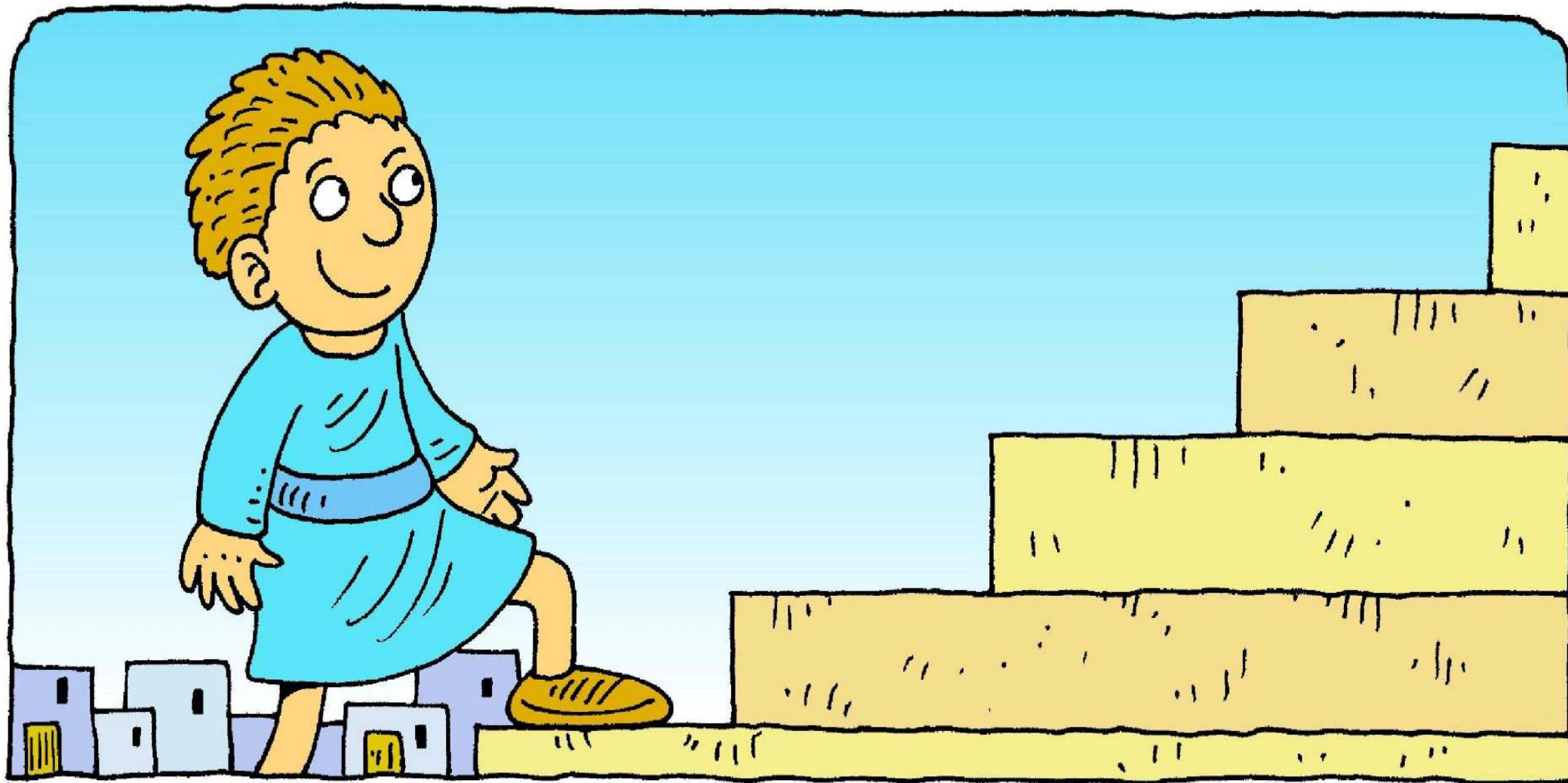
When Jesus was twelve years old
he went with Joseph and Mary
to the temple at Jerusalem,
to celebrate the feast of the Passover.



It was a special time to thank God.
Jesus walked along
with his family and friends.
Jesus loved going to the temple.



Afterwards, everyone walked home together.
The next day, Joseph and Mary
couldn't find Jesus.
They hurried back to look for him.



Jesus had gone back
to the temple, by himself,
to hear the wise men and teachers,
reading God's words.

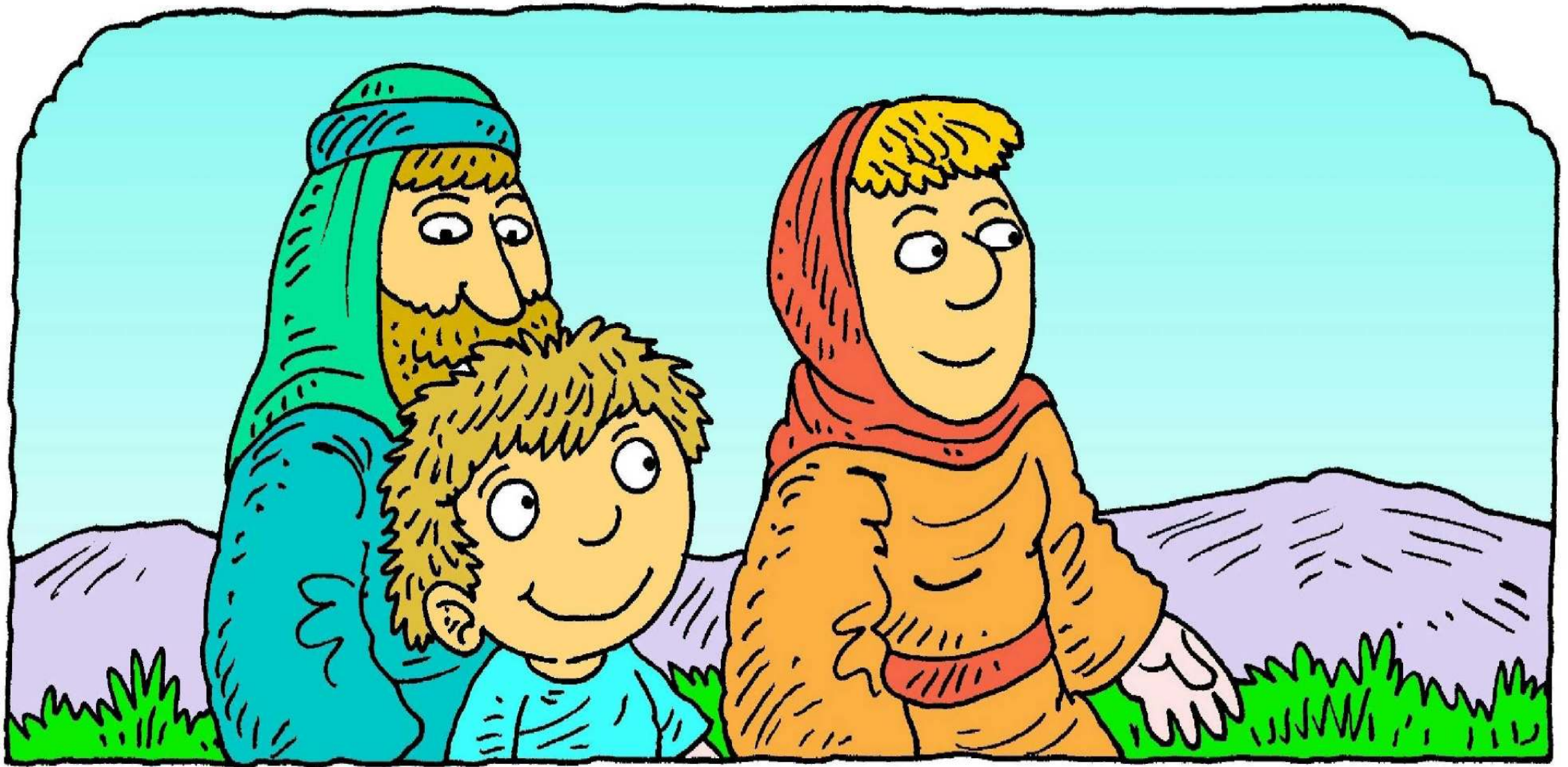


Jesus talked to the teachers.
They were surprised how much
he knew about God.
They didn't know Jesus was the Son of God.



At last Mary and Joseph
found him in the temple.

“We thought you were lost,” Mary said.
“I am here in my Father’s house,” Jesus told her.



Jesus went straight home with them.
Mary never forgot how
much Jesus loved God's word,
even when he was a boy.