

**POINT ➡ WE GET TO
KNOW GOD.**

Open the Bible to Luke 2, and show children the words. SAY: **Today we're going to find out what the Bible—God's special book—says about Jesus when he was a big kid, but still a Mighty Mini.**

ASK: **What do you want to do when you're a big kid?**

SAY: **Jesus did things with his family. Every year Jesus and his family took a trip and traveled to a big city for a special feast.**

ASK: **Where does your family go when you travel together?**

SAY: **Jesus' family traveled with lots of other families. One time, when Jesus was 12 years old, his parents lost him on the way home from the big city.**

ASK: **Tell about a time you lost something.**

SAY: **Jesus' parents looked everywhere. They asked their relatives and friends. No one knew where Jesus was. So they went back to the big city, and they finally found him. Jesus was in God's house, asking questions and talking to people about God. He showed us that ➡ WE GET TO KNOW GOD.**



POINT ➡ WE GET TO KNOW GOD.

Have kids close their eyes while you hide the *Bounce Ball*.

SAY: **We're going to pretend that our *Bounce Ball* is 12-year-old Jesus. The ball is hidden in our room. Let's pretend to be Jesus' parents and look for "lost Jesus" together. As we're looking, sing this song with me.** Lead children in singing this song to the tune of "Ten Little Indians." If you don't know the tune, simply chant the song with kids.

SING:

Where, oh where, oh where is Jesus?

Where, oh where, oh where is Jesus?

Where, oh where, oh where is Jesus?

We want to get to know God.

After you find the pretend Jesus, gather back together. You may repeat the hunt a few more times if kids would like to. Then SAY: **We found Jesus! Remember, Jesus is God's Son. Jesus knew that God was his heavenly Father, and he wanted to get to know God better. So Jesus found teachers in God's house and asked them questions about God.**

ASK: **What questions do you have about God?**

What are some answers people have given you when you've asked about God?

What can you do to get to know God better?

SAY: **When we ask questions about God, ➡ WE GET TO KNOW GOD.** Jesus also taught the teachers things! Kids can be **Mighty Minis** and help other people get to know God. That includes you!

Put away the *Bounce Ball*.

POINT ➡ WE GET TO KNOW GOD.

SAY: We know it's important that ➡ **WE GET TO KNOW GOD.** One of the ways we can get to know God better is to be still and listen to him. That means we sit down quietly and focus on God. Psalm 46:10 tells us, "Be still, and know that I am God!" God wants us to know him. Let's sing a song about being still so we can know God. During this song, we're not going to move around. Just sit and listen with your eyes closed. When you start to learn the words, sing along.

Play ● "Be Still and Know" (Psalm 46:10) (track 11) on the **CD**. Lead the children in singing this song twice with their eyes closed.

SING:

**Be still; be silent and know
That I am God.
Be still; be silent and know
That I am God.
I am God.**

**I will be honored by every nation.
I will be honored throughout the
world.
I will be honored by every nation.**

**I will be honored throughout the
world.**

Throughout the world.

(Repeat from the beginning.)

Throughout the world.

"Be Still and Know" (Psalm 46:10) by Jay Stocker. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

SAY: **Keep your eyes closed, place your hands in your lap, and just be still for a little bit.** Give kids about 10 seconds to sit and be still. Then pray, asking that God will help your kids know him better.

ASK: **What was it like for you to sit still during this song?**

Why would being quiet and still be a way to get to know God?

SAY: **When Jesus got older, he went off by himself to pray a lot. He knew that was an important way to be close to God. He also talked to people like the teachers in God's house to get to know God. ➡ WE GET TO KNOW GOD** on our own by listening to God, and with the help of others by talking to them about God.

POINT ➡ WE GET TO KNOW GOD.

SAY: Jesus was a kid, just like us. He even got lost when he was a kid. It took a little while for Jesus' mom and dad to figure out that he was missing. Let's see if you can figure out who's missing. Have kids stand against the wall, facing it with their eyes closed. Tap one child, who will open his or her eyes and come stand behind you. Then tell kids to open their eyes. **SAY:** Okay, who's missing?

Allow time for kids to determine who is hiding behind you. Then play several more rounds until everyone has gotten at least one turn to hide.

ASK: What was it like trying to figure out who was missing?

What's something so important to you that you'd notice right away if it was missing?

Tell about someone you love who you haven't seen in a while.

What do you do to stay in touch with people you don't get to see very much?

SAY: There might be people we love who live far away so we can't see them very much. But we can talk to them on the phone or look at their pictures when we miss them.

When Mary and Joseph realized they hadn't seen Jesus in a while, they didn't know how to find him! They couldn't call his cell phone, because there weren't any cell phones. They couldn't look at his picture, because there were no cameras yet. But Jesus was important to them. They probably didn't realize he was missing because each parent thought he was with the other one. So they went back to the big city and found him in God's house, getting to know more about God. Like Jesus, ➡ **WE GET TO KNOW GOD.**

POINT ➡ WE GET TO KNOW GOD.

Have kids form pairs. **SAY: When Jesus was with the teachers in God's house, he asked and answered a lot of questions. One way ➡ WE GET TO KNOW GOD is by asking questions. Let's practice this. I'll get to know you by asking you questions. Tell your partner the answer to the question, and try to remember what your partner says.** Ask the following questions, pausing after each one for partners to discuss their answers.

ASK: What's your favorite color?

What's your favorite food?

Who lives at your house?

What pets do you have?

What do you do to have fun?

What do you like most about yourself?

SAY: We know each other a lot more now that we've asked all those questions!

ASK: What's something new you learned about your partner.

What's a question you'd like to ask God about himself?

SAY: One way ➡ WE GET TO KNOW GOD is by asking questions. We can ask him questions in prayer, or we can ask other people who know God what they know about him. Jesus asked questions when he heard people talking about God. Let's do the same thing!