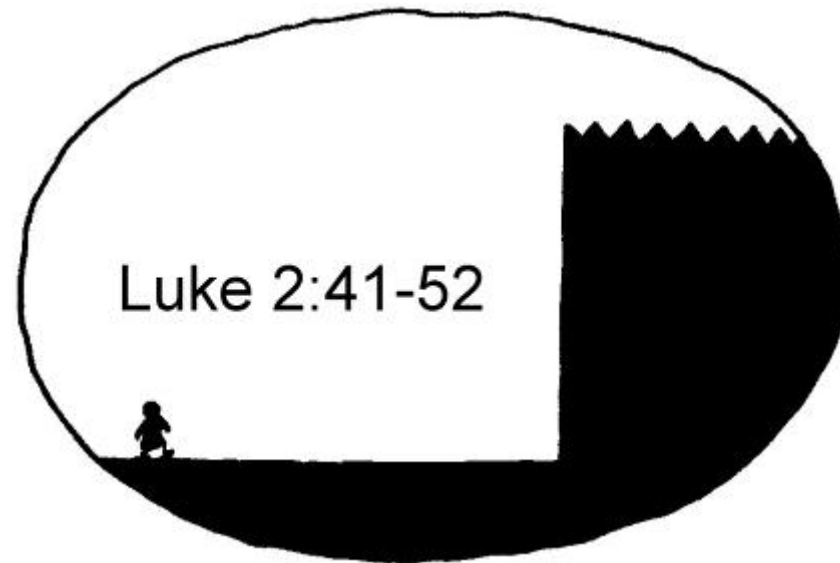


# When Jesus Was Twelve

By Jill Kemp

Illustrated by Richard Gunther





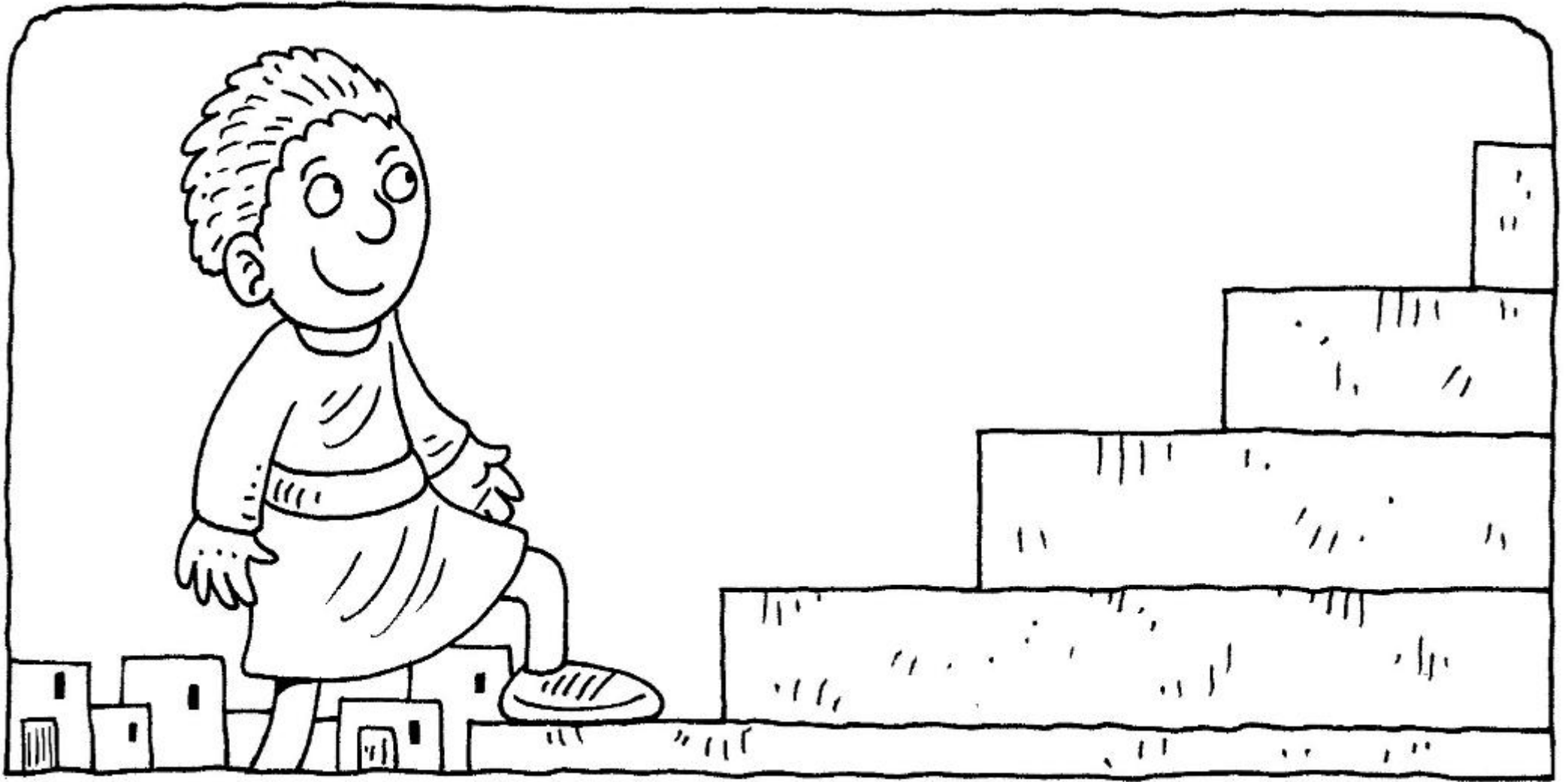
When Jesus was twelve years old  
he went with Joseph and Mary  
to the temple at Jerusalem,  
to celebrate the feast of the Passover.



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.