



**Series:** Divine Presence  
**Passage:** Luke 2:39-52  
**Title:** Embracing Our Identity  
**Speaker:** Pastor JC Cooper – 12/30/2018

**Discussion Starter** – With the New Year coming upon us, how has this sermon influenced you and taking a hard look at what New Year's resolutions you plan to make?

### **Jesus Returns to Nazareth** (Luke 2:39-40)

- Why do you think God chose for Jesus to grow up in Nazareth and not Jerusalem? Read Isaiah 9:1-2 and John 1:46. What additional insights do these verses give us on why Jesus was to be raised in Nazareth?
- What is meant by Luke, as he describes the young boy Jesus as being strong in spirit?
- How do you think Jesus grew in wisdom as a child? What role did His earthly parents play?

### **Jesus Lingers Behind in the Temple** (Luke 2:41-52)

- What is the significance of the Passover Feast celebration in relationship to Jesus? Read Exodus 12:5-14. How are each of these ritual steps fulfilled by Jesus?
- How frantic do you think Jesus' parents must have been after realizing he was missing for three days? Have you ever lost a child at a store or mall? What are some of the things you experienced during the unknown moments?
- When Mary Joseph found Jesus sitting in the temple how did they react?
- What is the significance of how Jesus responds to His earthly parents? What does that tell us about what His mission in life was going to be?
- What is Jesus trying to show us when He asks questions that He already knows the answers to? How should we apply this type of knowledge in our own lives?
- As parents do we seek God's will for children above our own desires? How have you seen the impact of this in your own life experience?
- Read Luke 24:5-9. Who was looking for Jesus, and what did they forget? What can we learn from these verses to help us to connect our identity as sons and daughters of our heavenly Father?