

## Losing Jesus

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**Key Texts:** Luke 2:41–52; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 12:2; Mark 4:7; Luke 10:38–42; Matthew 6:33; Jeremiah 29:13 (NASB 1995)

**YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kRTF-0enfac>

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### Introduction

- We understand the panic of losing someone we love, even for a moment.
  - The fear is real, the relief overwhelming when they are found.
  - Luke 2 records a shocking moment: **Joseph and Mary lost Jesus.**
  - Not because they stopped loving Him—but because they **assumed, were distracted, and did not notice He was gone.**
  - This is not only a family story. It is a **spiritual warning.**
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### I. It Is Possible to Lose Jesus and Not Know It (Luke 2:41–43)

- A. Joseph and Mary traveled a full day without realizing Jesus was not with them.
- B. They supposed He was in the caravan.
- C. They assumed everything was fine.
- D. They were wrong.

#### **Callout — Warning:**

Assumption is dangerous in spiritual matters. You can be far from Christ and still think everything is fine.

#### **Callout — Application:**

Many Christians have lost Jesus—or are losing Him—and do not yet realize it.

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## II. People Reveal Whether They Are Close to Jesus or Far from Him

- A. You can tell by:
  - Prayer life
  - Speech
  - Choices
  - Companions
  - Priorities
  - What they pursue and what they avoid
- B. A fading relationship with Christ always shows up in daily living.

### Callout — Rebuke:

You cannot claim closeness to Christ while living in patterns that push Him away.

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## III. We Are Our Brother's Keeper

- A. Christians must love each other enough to **speak up**.
- B. Silence is not kindness when a soul is in danger.
- C. God places us in each other's lives to:
  - Warn
  - Admonish
  - Restore
  - Rescue

### Callout — Application:

Real love does not watch quietly while someone drifts away from Christ.

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## IV. Joseph and Mary Assumed Jesus Would Always Be With Them (Luke 2:44)

- A. They assumed His presence without checking.
- B. Many today assume:
  - Because they once obeyed the gospel

- Because they once “had a relationship with God”
- They can never lose Christ—no matter how they live
- C. Scripture teaches transformation, not stagnation.
  - 2 Corinthians 5:17 — New creature in Christ
  - Romans 12:2 — Be transformed by renewing your mind

**Callout — Warning:**

Salvation is not a license to remain unchanged. Faith must continue to shape how we live.

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**V. Distraction Is a Quiet Thief (Mark 4:7; Luke 10:38–42; Matthew 6:33)**

- A. Joseph and Mary were likely:
  - Talking with family
  - Thinking about travel
  - Focused on many good things
- B. But good things became **distracting things**.
- C. Jesus warned:
  - Cares of the world can choke out the Word (Mark 4:7)
  - Martha was busy, but Mary chose what mattered (Luke 10:38–42)
  - Seek first the kingdom (Matthew 6:33)

**Callout — Warning:**

Distraction does not usually look sinful. It looks busy, normal, and harmless—until Jesus is gone.

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**VI. Jesus Can Be Found (Luke 2:45–49; Jeremiah 29:13)**

- A. They searched everywhere—but at first, in the wrong places.
- B. They finally found Him in the temple.
- C. Jesus said this is where they should have looked first:
  - “Did you not know that I had to be in My Father’s house?”

- D. God promises:
  - If you seek Him with all your heart, He can be found (Jeremiah 29:13)

**Callout — Encouragement:**

If you have lost Jesus, you can find Him. If you are drifting, you can return.

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**VII. Where You Lost Him Is Where You Must Start Looking**

- A. Not in a building alone.
- B. Not in excuses.
- C. Not in blaming others.
- D. But in:
  - Honest repentance
  - Humble seeking
  - Wholehearted obedience

**Callout — Application:**

You do not find Christ by accident. You find Him by seeking Him with your whole heart.

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**Conclusion / Call to Action**

- Joseph and Mary lost Jesus by assuming and by distraction.
- Many today do the same.
- The good news: **Jesus can be found.**
- If you have never obeyed the gospel:
  - Believe in Christ
  - Repent of sin
  - Confess Him
  - Be baptized for the forgiveness of sins
- If you have drifted:
  - Come back

- Seek Him again
- Put Him first

**Final Call:**

Do not live assuming Jesus is with you. **Walk with Him—on purpose, every day.**

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**Slide Deck (12 Slides)**

Slide 1 — Losing Jesus

**Main Content:**

- Luke 2:41–52
- A warning about spiritual drift
- A call to seek Christ again

**Scripture:**

- Luke 2:43–49

**Design Intent:**

- Light background
- Strong, clear title
- Serious and reflective mood

Slide 2 — You Can Lose Someone You Love

**Main Content:**

- Fear of loss is real
- Panic when someone is gone
- Relief when they are found

**Design Intent:**

- Warm, readable background
- Emotional but calm tone

Slide 3 — They Did Not Know Jesus Was Gone

## **Main Content:**

- Traveled one full day
- Assumed He was with them
- Did not check

### **Scripture:**

- Luke 2:43–44

### **Design Intent:**

- Clean layout
- Cautionary tone
- High contrast text

Slide 4 — Assumption Is Dangerous

## **Main Content:**

- Assumption replaces vigilance
- Assumption replaces responsibility
- Assumption leads to loss

### **Design Intent:**

- Simple, bold layout
- Warning emphasis

Slide 5 — Your Life Shows Where You Stand

## **Main Content:**

- Prayer life
- Choices
- Companions
- Priorities

### **Design Intent:**

- Teaching-focused
- Clear and readable

## Slide 6 — We Are Our Brother's Keeper

### **Main Content:**

- Love speaks up
- Love warns
- Love restores

#### **Design Intent:**

- Encouraging but serious
- Church-appropriate tone

## Slide 7 — Transformation Is Required

### **Main Content:**

- New creature in Christ
- Renewed mind
- Changed life

#### **Scripture:**

- 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 12:2

#### **Design Intent:**

- Hopeful
- Instructional

## Slide 8 — Distraction Chokes Faith

### **Main Content:**

- Cares of the world
- Busyness
- Misplaced priorities

#### **Scripture:**

- Mark 4:7; Matthew 6:33

#### **Design Intent:**

- Warning tone

- Clean layout

## Slide 9 — Martha and Mary

### **Main Content:**

- One was busy
- One chose what mattered
- Jesus praised the better choice

#### **Scripture:**

- Luke 10:38–42

#### **Design Intent:**

- Reflective
- Gentle correction tone

## Slide 10 — They Found Jesus in the Temple

### **Main Content:**

- Looked in the wrong places first
- Found Him where they should have started

#### **Scripture:**

- Luke 2:46–49

#### **Design Intent:**

- Clear, hopeful
- Teaching emphasis

## Slide 11 — God Can Be Found

### **Main Content:**

- Seek with all your heart
- God is not hiding
- He responds to sincere seeking

#### **Scripture:**

- Jeremiah 29:13

**Design Intent:**

- Encouraging
- Uplifting tone

Slide 12 — The Call to Respond

**Main Content:**

- Do not assume
- Do not drift
- Seek Christ and stay with Him

**Design Intent:**

- Inviting
- Serious and hopeful