

# God Loves Mommies

**Bible Basis:** Genesis 21:1-6

**Lesson Focus:** God loves mommies.

## Where Learning Happens



Set up areas for play before children arrive.

## Bible Step

### Talk Time

■ *Toddler/2 Creative Teaching Aids*—Photo Poster 2

### Bible Story Time

Genesis 21:1-6

## Bible Review Step

### Bible Story Review Time

■ *Toddler/2 Creative Teaching Aids*—Story Figures 2, 3, Story Card 2, Story Mat

### Music Time

“THE FAMILY SONG”

■ *Toddler/2 Creative Teaching Aids*—CD, CD player

## Craft Step



### Chalk Drawings

■ Construction paper, paper cups, water, colored chalk

■ *Starting Steps* for Lesson 2 for Goodbye Time



This symbol appears whenever preparation takes more than five minutes. A list of classroom supplies for the quarter is included on page 5.

## Teacher Devotional

Have you ever taken the time to listen to the children in your classroom giggle and laugh? Just experiencing a little one's laughter can bring joy into a day.

Read Genesis 21:1-6. In verse 6, Sarah (speaking about the birth of her son Isaac) says, “God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me.” God gave Sarah a gift of laughter—motherhood. That gift brought her a lot of joy.

Think about the gifts that God has given you that fill you with joy and laughter.

Thank God for those gifts. Then go out and spread your joy and laughter to others. May your joy in God be as infectious as the laughter of one of the little ones you teach.

## Understanding the Bible

In Genesis 12, God made a promise to Abraham. Part of that promise was God would make him into a great nation. God repeated this promise again in Genesis 15 and 17. However, Sarah was barren (Gen. 11:30).

Through faith, Abraham and Sarah trusted in God's promise for many years. When Abraham was 99 and Sarah was close to 89, they were visited by three heavenly visitors (Gen. 18:1-15). One of the visitors, called “the Lord,” promised that Sarah would have a son in a year (vs. 10). Sarah's response was to laugh.

God did keep His promise (Gen. 21:1-6). When Sarah was close to 90, she bore a son. He was named Isaac which means “he laughs.”



**Y**our children spend all of their time in this lesson moving, exploring, choosing, and playing in the learning environment. The learning environment is simply the books, toys, blocks, music, stories, and activities your children interact with from the moment they arrive until they go home. While children are busy exploring and playing, you can gather together a small group to hear the Bible story from Genesis 21:1-6. You can also walk around the room, visit the children at different activities, and use the story mat to present the Bible Story Review.

This lesson is designed to allow toddlers and two year olds to play independently, freeing you to present the Bible Step, Bible Review Step, and Craft Step either to individuals or to small groups throughout the class time.

# Where Learning Happens

## Table—

The table can be used for a free-play activity, snack, or the craft. For directions on setting up today's craft activity, see *"Chalk Drawings" in the Craft Step, page 15.*

## Rug—

This is the place to gather children together for small group activities, depending on the size of your group. Invite them to the rug for the Bible Step, *page 13. Today's story is "God Loves Mommies" from Genesis 21:1-6.*

This is also a good place for sharing stories or movement and the Music Time, *page 14. This week sing "THE FAMILY SONG."*

## Care Area—

Take time for each child's physical needs, including rest room breaks and diaper changes. Provide water and a snack when appropriate.

## Books—

A choice of books to explore pictures and words.

## Blocks—

Blocks of different sizes and shapes for building and creative play. *Add plastic people figures to the blocks. Have the children find mommies and children in the figures, then build houses for them. Exploring families will help children relate to Genesis 21:1-6, when God made Sarah a mommy.*

## Toys—

A variety of toys appropriate for two year olds to encourage play.

## Home Living—

Several baby dolls, blankets, play food, pots and pans, and utensils for children to imitate what they see in real life. *Put an inch of water in a couple of dishpans. Let the children give the dolls baths, just as mommies do. This dramatic play will help children relate to today's Bible story. Be sure this water activity is well supervised.*

## When Teaching the Bible to Toddler/2s...

In today's Bible story from Genesis 21:1-6, God made Sarah a mother. Mothers are a constant and important part of the lives of toddlers and two year olds. That consistency helps them grow into trusting individuals. You can help provide consistency for the children in your class by insuring that, as often as possible, the same person greets and welcomes the children.



**Lesson 2 Focus: God loves mommies.**

# Bible Step

## Talk Time

■ Materials: Creative Teaching Aids—Photo Poster 2

Toddlers love to look at photographs that show children. Sharing what they know about children and mommies helps them connect to the Bible story “God Loves Mommies” from Genesis 21:1-6. Invite small groups of four children or less to the rug for Talk Time. Use this rhyme to help capture their attention.

**Clap, clap, clap.**

**Pat your knee.**

**Clap, clap, clap.**

**Look at me.**

Show Photo Poster 2. Point to the child. **Here are two children. Who can find the mommy in this picture?** Have each child point to the mommy in the picture. **What special things do mommies do for their children?** Encourage each child to talk about what their mommies do for them. Give all children a time to talk. Be prepared to give examples. **Mommies are special. Today we are going to learn that God loves mommies.**



Photo Poster 2

## Bible Story Time

■ Genesis 21:1-6

Toddlers and two year olds often see their mommies as the most important person in their lives. Today’s Bible story tells the children God loves mommies too. Have your Bible open to Genesis 21:1-6. **Our story today is from God’s special book, the Bible. Sarah’s story is in the Bible. Sarah might tell her story like this:**

**My name is Sarah.**

**I wanted to be a mommy. But it took a long, long time.**

*(Open arms wide.)*

**God promised that I would be a mommy.**

*(Point up.)*

**God kept this promise.**

**God gave me a baby. The baby was Isaac.**

*(Pretend to rock a baby.)*

**Now I was a mommy. God loved me.**

**God loves mommies.**

*(Point to heaven; then hug yourself.)*

Repeat the Bible story to help the children learn and remember. You can also read this story from *The Toddler’s Bible* (on the CD in your CTA packet.)



## Story Questions

Ask the following questions to review the Bible story:

**1. Who was a mommy?**  
(Sarah)

**2. Who loves mommies?**  
(God)



# Bible Review Step

## Bible Story Review Time

- Materials: Creative Teaching Aids—Story Figures 2, 3, Story Card 2, Story Mat

Touching and moving things are good ways for toddlers to learn. The children in your class are not concerned if the same figure is used as different characters throughout the quarter. It is more important that they are able to move the figures as you tell the Bible Review story. This week the baby (Figure 2) will be Isaac. Encourage the children to use the figures of Sarah (Figure 3) and Isaac (Figure 2) as they help you retell the Bible story.

You can do the Bible Review Step anytime after you have done the Bible Step. Keep the small group you have at the rug or visit small groups at different activities and tell the Bible Review story.



Story Mat with Story Figures 2, 3, and Story Card 2



Punch out any new figures for the lesson and Story Card 2. Lay the story card next to the story mat.

*Put Sarah (Figure 3) on the mat before telling the story.*

**The Bible tells us about Sarah. It took a long, long time for Sarah to be a mommy. God promised Sarah that she would be a mommy.**

**God gave Sarah baby Isaac. Have a child put Isaac (Figure 2) on the mat. Now Sarah was a mommy. God loved Sarah. God loves mommies.**

Repeat the story until all the children you are telling the story to have had an opportunity to move a figure at least one time. Toddlers and two year olds need to hear and do things more than once.

## Music Time

- Materials: Creative Teaching Aids—CD, CD player



Music filled with energy and action is perfect for toddlers. They learn the way they like best—using their whole bodies and lots of energy! This song reinforces God's love of mothers as seen in today's Bible story about Sarah and Isaac from Genesis 21:1-6.

### "THE FAMILY SONG"

The complete song is track 1 of the CD in the Creative Teaching Aids packet. The words and movements can be found on page 71 of this teacher's guide.

To help children learn the song, repeat "THE FAMILY SONG" as long as it holds the children's interest.



**Lesson 2 Focus: God loves mommies.**

## Craft Step

### Chalk Drawings

The process of doing a craft is one of the ways toddlers and two year olds learn. They discover how chalk works by dipping it in water and coloring.

Encourage each child to create more than one Chalk Drawing as time allows. All the things your children create are treasures. You can send them all home.

**Materials:** Construction paper  
Paper cups  
Water  
Colored chalk

**Before Class:** Put about an inch of water in each cup. Set a cup and a piece of paper at each place at the table.



### Craft Time:

Today you will **dip your chalk in water and then color with it. The chalk will get brighter after you dip it.** Show the children how to dip the chalk in water and then draw with it. The colors will be brighter after the chalk is dipped in water. If a child doesn't know what to draw, you could encourage him or her to draw a picture of a mommy, a grandma, or an aunt. It is okay if the drawing doesn't look like a person.

While the children work, talk about the Bible story from Genesis 21:1-6. **The Bible tells us about Sarah. God promised Sarah would be a mommy. God loved Sarah. God loves mommies.**

Let the children make more than one Chalk Drawing.



### Goodbye Time

As they leave, tell all the children, individually, you are glad they came. As you say goodbye, ask, **"Who loves mommies?"** Send each child home with his or her very own *Starting Steps*. One side connects each child's family to today's lesson; the other side includes a devotional, parenting tips, and an amusing anecdote.