

Lesson 3

Starting Steps



Faith Activities for Families with Toddlers

Starting Steps is for families to use at home. It encourages you in your faith-journey and parenting. Use the ideas here and on the *Starting Steps* calendar throughout the week to extend and reinforce what your child learned.

At This Age

Just as not all people are the same, two year olds are different from each other. But they do have some things in common. Knowing these can help you understand how your child is developing. Here are a few things you may be noticing at your house. Know that you aren't alone!

- Two year olds learn using all their senses—even taste!
- Two year olds like words and like to talk with people.
- Two year olds thrive on movement.
- Two year olds rely on adults.

Time with God

There is an old saying that says, "Laughter is the best medicine." In Genesis 21:6, Sarah (speaking about the birth of Isaac) said,

"God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me."

Laughter comes with a sense of freedom and joy. It makes you and those around you feel good.

As you play with your child, have a really good laugh. Maybe have a tickle time where you laugh and giggle and roll around on the floor with your child. Experience the joy of laughter with your child. It really is a gift from God.

Toddler Tickler

Indelible Kisses

My niece had made a habit of rubbing her hand across her face after her daddy gave her a kiss. Finally, her mother told her it made Daddy feel bad when she wiped his kisses off. My niece quickly replied, "Well, tell him I'm not wiping them off. I'm rubbing them in!"

Kim Schmitz, St. Joseph, Mo.
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Time with Your Toddler



God Loves Daddies based on Genesis 21:1-6

This week's Bible story is "God Loves Daddies." Read the story from here and Bible storybooks many times—toddlers like and need repetition to learn.

God loves daddies. The Bible tells us about Abraham. Abraham wanted to be a daddy. But it took a long, long time.
(Open arms wide.)

God promised Abraham he would be a daddy.
(Point up.)

God kept His promise. God gave Abraham a baby.
(Pretend to rock a baby.)



Now Abraham was a daddy. God loved Abraham. God loves daddies.
(Stretch out arms and then hug yourself.)

These questions can be used to help your child review the Bible story.

1. Who was a daddy? (Abraham)
2. Who loves daddies? (God)

Look what I made!



Today your child experienced playing with shaving cream. Handprints were made after each child played with his or her own pile of shaving cream. You might ask your child how the shaving cream felt on his hands.