

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

Changes, even very small ones, can be very stressful for a two year old. This stress can show itself in many ways: crying, clinging, or even angry outbursts. Here are a few hints to reduce the stress changes can create for your child.

- Tell your child about the change ahead of time. Be sure to emphasize the good points.
- If the change involves stopping a fun activity, give a five-minute warning to prepare your child for the upcoming change.
- If the change involves a major life change such as a move or birth, tell your child's teachers so they can help your child while he is in their care.

Time with God

Sometimes when you look at your child you may feel an overwhelming sense of love for this little person. The Bible has many verses about love. Ephesians 3:18 says,

May [you] have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.

God loved us first. He created us and sent His Son to die for us. He loves us.

The love we feel for our children gives us a small inkling of the incredible love God has for us. God sees someone wonderful, who He made and loves, each time He looks at us, no matter how old we are. This week, remember that you are deeply loved by God!

Toddler Tickler

Getting the Name Right

As I was leaving our son with the babysitter for the first time, I heard her ask him, "What does your mommy call you—John or John Paul?" Even I was surprised by his answer. "My mommy calls me "Honey"!"



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Time with Your Toddler



God Made Our Feet

based on Genesis 1:27-30; Job 10:8-12

The Bible story “God Made Our Feet” was taught in Sunday school today. Read the story from here and Bible storybooks many times—toddlers like and need repetition to learn.

The Bible tells us that God made us.

(Hold hands like a book.)

God made us special. God made our feet. God made our feet to stand and walk and run.

(Touch your feet.)

We can stand with our feet.

(Stand up, then sit down.)

God made us special from our head to our toes.

(Point to your head, then your toes.)

God made our feet.

(Point to your feet.)

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

1. What did God make? (Our feet)
2. Who made our feet? (God)



Look what I made!

Today your child decorated footprints. As you talk to your child about his art, you might want to discuss the colors on the footprint and how it was made.