

## Lesson 9

# 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

As your child grows, one way to help build confidence is to give opportunities to make decisions. Even two year olds can be encouraged to make decisions. Some things to keep in mind while teaching your young child about decisions are:

- Give your child only two things to choose between. For example, “Would you like a banana or an apple?”
- Give your child a choice only when you are willing to accept the decision.
- Always follow through when a child makes a decision.

### Time with God

Genesis 1:26 says,

*God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”*

What an awesome privilege and responsibility God gave! God not only made you in His image, He also gave you the responsibility to take care of His creation. Reflect on the responsibilities God has placed in your life, including that of raising a child. Ask God to guide you in carrying out those responsibilities in ways that will glorify Him.

### Toddler Tickler

#### Cut to the Heart

My two year old came in the kitchen one morning and asked, “Mommy, can I have a band-aid?” “Sure, what happened?” I asked. “I hurt my feelings.”

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# Time with Your Toddler



## **God Made Us Special** based on Genesis 1:27-30; Psalm 139:13-16

This week's Bible story is "God Made Us Special." 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. God made us special. God made our eyes so we can see.**

*(Point to your eyes.)*

**God made our ears so we can hear.**

*(Point to your ears.)*

**God made our hands to touch and hold and clap.**

*(Clap your hands.)*

**God made our feet to stand and walk and run.**

*(Touch your feet.)*

**God made us special from our head to our toes!**

*(Point to your head, then your toes.)*

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

1. How did God make us? (Special)
2. Who made us special? (God)



*Look what I made!*

Today your child's craft was created by using fingerprints. As you talk with your child about his masterpiece, ask him how he made those special marks on the paper.