

Lesson 4

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 two year old develops language skills and acquires new words, provide opportunities to use these words. Have frequent one-on-one conversations with your child. Here are a few “conversation starter” tips:

- Talk to your child face-to-face. By watching your mouth, your child will learn how words are formed.
- Give your child a chance to initiate conversation. Wait for him to respond to something you have said.
- Naming objects, describing events, and reflecting feelings will help your child learn new words.

Time with God

As a parent, the responsibilities of raising a family, keeping a job, and dealing with the various stresses of daily life are sometimes overwhelming.

At these times, it may help to take a look at how your two year old deals with overwhelming situations. He may find solace in the comfort of your arms, knowing you love him and will keep him safe.

You, too, can climb into loving arms, the arms of your heavenly Father. Psalm 55:22 says,

Cast your cares on the LORD and he will sustain you.

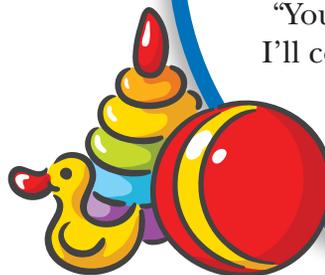
Feel God’s love for you. Be comforted in His presence. He’ll keep you safe.

Toddler Tickler

Easy Prey

Our three-and-a-half-year-old son was teaching his two-year-old sister how to play Hide-and-Seek. “You hide behind this door, and I’ll come find you,” he instructed.

Diane DeBlasio, West Islip, N.Y.
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Time with Your Toddler



Jesus Is Special

based on Matthew 7:7-11; 28:20; Romans 8:35

The Bible story “Jesus Is Special” 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 Jesus is special. He loves us.

(Hug your child.)

He is always with us.

(Nod head up and down.)

Jesus is special and He loves us.

(Hug your child.)

We can always talk to Him.

(Move your hands as if you were talking with them.)

Jesus is special and He loves us.

(Hug your child.)

Jesus is special!

(Point up.)

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

1. Who loves us? (Jesus)
1. Who is special? (Jesus)



Look what I made!

To create today’s masterpiece, your child drew on a paper while listening to a song about Jesus’ love. As you talk about the craft, you may say to your child, “Tell me how you made this.”