

Lesson 5

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

Schedules and routines are very important for a two year old. They give a child a sense of security and confidence. In a world that moves at a hectic pace, your child's routine can benefit him both emotionally and physically by creating positive habits. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- Plan outings before and after nap times.
- Spend time each day one-on-one with your child.
- Be consistent with your routines.
- Ask others who care for your child to maintain routines.
- When you do have to change routines, be sure to tell your child. This will help your child prepare for the change.

Time with God

As the parent of a two year old, you may spend a lot of time planning and preparing for many activities. It takes time and effort to plan meals, prepare for trips out of the house, and coordinate schedules.

Sometimes it's discouraging to have all that time and effort be expected and not appreciated. While your child may not yet be able to show much appreciation at this age, you really are appreciated. First Corinthians 2:9 declares,

"What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human has conceived"— the things God has prepared for those who love him—

You can rejoice that God has planned and prepared for you out of His love.

Toddler Tickler

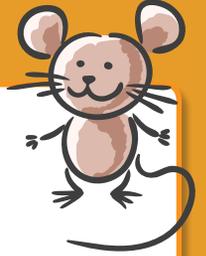
Meteorology Made Simple

The other evening my husband yelled from outside on the patio, "Is it supposed to rain tonight?" "No, Dad," our two year old called back. "It's supposed to get dark."

Lori Kedzie, Rochelle, Ill.
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Time with Your Toddler



God Made Daytime and Nighttime

based on Genesis 1:3-5, 14-19

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

The Bible tells us that God made daytime.

(Point up.)

The sun shines in the daytime. We play in the daytime.

(Run in place.)



The Bible tells us that God made nighttime.

(Point up.)

We see the moon and stars at nighttime. We sleep at nighttime.

(Rest head on hands.)



God made daytime and nighttime.

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

1. What did God make? (Daytime and nighttime)
2. Who made daytime and nighttime? (God)

Look what I made!



During craft time your child created a picture with paper and chalk. As you talk with your child, ask, "What happened when you drew with the chalk on the paper?"