

Starting Steps



For Parents and Toddlers

Starting Steps is for families to use at home. It encourages you in your own faith-journey and parenting skills while extending what your child learned in class throughout the week. This week's Bible story is "The Bible Is a Very Special Book." Toddlers like and need repetition to learn—so read the story many times during the week.

THE Encouraging WORD

A Devotional for Parents

Raising a young child can leave a parent without energy, time, or strength. The reality is that you need to take time to renew yourself each day so that you can be an effective parent.

You can find daily spiritual strength and renewal in God's very special book—the Bible. Try to find a moment while your child is sleeping to spend time reading the Bible. God will daily touch you with His love and promises. His Word will give you strength. Pray with the psalmist in Psalm 119:28:

My soul is weary . . . strengthen me according to your word.

At This Age

Two year olds love looking at pictures or listening to a story. They can learn to appreciate and handle books correctly while building a strong language foundation. Here are some tips:

- Set a daily time to enjoy books with your child.
- Hold your child in your lap and talk about the book's story or pictures.
- Use books with heavy pages and shapes that easily fit your child's hands.
- Let your child help in selecting the story, holding the book, and turning the pages.

TODDLER TICKLER — "Naughty Tag-Team"

One day while I was running errands, I left my children in the car with a friend of mine. Apparently my 4-year-old was being quite obnoxious when suddenly she quit and said to her 2-year-old sister: "I'm tired of being naughty. It's your turn now."

Teri Gasser, Madison, Wis.
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TIME WITH YOUR TODDLER/2



A Look at a Toddler/2 MASTERPIECE

Today your child finger-painted on foil. As you talk with your child about her masterpiece, ask her how the paint felt. Talk about how the paint looks on the foil.

On the back of this page is a frame designed to display your child's craft. The printed title on the frame will help you remind your child about this week's Bible story.



INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY

This story is based on Habakkuk 2:2-3; 2 Peter 1:20-21.



This is the Bible.

(You and your child can point to a Bible.)

The Bible is a book.

(Hold hands open like a book.)

The Bible is a very special book.

We learn about God in the Bible.

(You and your child can point up.)

The Bible comes from God.

(You and your child can point up.)

I'm glad God gave us a very special book. This is the Bible.

The Bible is a very special book.

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

1. **What is the Bible?** (A very special book)
2. **What book is very special?** (The Bible)

THE BIBLE IS A VERY SPECIAL BOOK

