

# 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

Two year olds may no longer enjoy car rides or trips like they did when they were younger. Here are some tips for traveling with a two year old.

- Take time to talk to your toddler about things he sees outside or inside the car. This quality time spent together can be something you both enjoy for years to come.

- Keep healthy, non-messy snacks within easy reach. Snacks will help keep your child entertained and calm while you drive.

- Keep the road your first priority. If your child becomes extremely fussy or angry, pull over to a safe location before dealing with your child.

### Time with God

Being a parent is like running a race. And parenting a two year old can seem like a marathon! Exhaustion and a lack of energy may be the only outcomes you sometimes feel from this high-paced race! Listen to these words from the apostle Paul:

*Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.*

— 1 Corinthians 9:24

In the parenting race, what is the prize? A happy, healthy child committed to the ways of the Lord. So don't neglect your training. Keep spiritually fit. Never give up, and run with a purpose!

### Toddler Tickler

#### “Good Answer”

While potty training, I'll often ask my two-and-one-half-year-old Sean if his pants are dry. Usually he tells me either a bright “yes” or a slightly mischievous “no.” Today when I asked, he said simply, “Sometimes.”

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# Time with Your Toddler

## Wise Men Came to See Jesus

based on Matthew 2:1-12

The Bible story “Wise Men Came to See Jesus” was taught in Sunday school today. Read the story from here and Bible storybooks many times—toddlers like and need repetition to learn.



**Wise men saw a great big star.**

*(Hold hands above eyes and look up.)*

**The wise men followed the star.**

*(Walk in place.)*

**The star helped the wise men find Jesus with Mary.**

*(Point up.)*

**The wise men bowed down to Jesus.**

*(Bow head.)*

**The wise men gave gifts to Jesus.**

*(Hold arms out in front of you.)*

**Wise men came to see Jesus.**

*(Hold hands above eyes.)*



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

1. Who came to see Jesus? (The wise men)
2. Who did the wise men see? (Jesus)

*Look what I made!*



Today your child colored stars with crayon clusters. As you talk with your child, you could ask, “How did you get all the different colors in your star?”

