

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 are capable of learning to complete simple tasks. They will try hard to follow what you want them to do. Here are some tips:

- Don't give more than one task at a time.
- Give your child time to obey and complete whatever you are asking.
- When a task has been completed, affirm your child's success.
- Help your child begin a task to show what to do. Then let him complete it on his own.

Time with God

Your two year old can help you understand what Jesus meant in John 21 when He said, "Follow Me."

Think about the last time you held your child's hand and crossed a busy street. You needed her to follow your example. Without your guidance, your child would have been in perilous danger.

Or think about how you might ask your child to drink milk with his mouth and not his ear. Ear drinking is ineffective. Mouth drinking gets results.

Jesus wants you to follow Him for the same reasons. Your safety and knowledge are important to Him.

Toddler Tickler

"An Apple a Day"

When our daughter was teething we sometimes let her gnaw on an apple. One day soon after her first tooth had come in and she was through with her apple, I washed it and put it in my husband's sack lunch. On his lunch break, my husband was amused to find one little tooth mark all over his apple. When he proudly showed it to his coworkers, one said, "I wouldn't eat that apple—I'd have it bronzed."



Audrey Osborne, Ocala, Fla.
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Time with Your Toddler



Interactive Bible Story based on John 21:15-19

Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love Me?"

Peter said, "Yes."

(Nod your head.)

Jesus asked Peter again, "Do you love Me?"

Peter said, "Yes."

(Nod your head.)

Again Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love Me?"

Peter said, "Jesus, You know everything."

(Spread your arms wide.)

You know that I love You."

Then Jesus said to Peter, "Follow Me."



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

1. Who loved Jesus? (Peter)
2. Who said to Peter, "Follow Me?" (Jesus)



Look what I made!

Today your child created a roll with paper streamers. As you talk with your child about her masterpiece, ask your child what happens to the streamers as the roll of streamers is waved.

