

# FAITHWEAVER

Weaving faith into today's families **NOW**®

**SPRING 2016  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**INFANTS, TODDLERS  
& 2s  
TEACHER GUIDE**



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ONE-TIME ACTIVATION CODE:

## Group resources really work!

This Group resource incorporates our R.E.A.L. approach to ministry. It reinforces a growing friendship with Jesus, encourages long-term learning, and results in life transformation, because it's



### Relational

Learner-to-learner interaction enhances learning and builds Christian friendships.

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What learners experience through discussion and action sticks with them up to 9 times longer than what they simply hear or read.

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Learners understand and retain more when the learning process takes into consideration how they learn best.

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### FaithWeaver NOW® Bible Curriculum, Infants, Toddlers & 2s, Spring 2016

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### Credits

Contributing Authors: Enelle G. Eder, Julie Lavender, Larry Shallenberger, Courtney Jennings Wright

Editors: Stephanie Martin, Amy Nappa, Jessica Sausto, Owen Shattuck, Ali Thompson

Copy Editors: Lyndsay Gerwing, Becky Helzer, Sarah Yepishin, Andrea Zimmerman

Chief Creative Officer: Joani Schultz

Cover Design and Art Direction: Jeff Spencer

Interior Design Team: Jared Bigham, Jeff Brunacci, Joyce Douglas, Kate Elvin, Suzi Jensen, Dolly Palmer, Rebecca Swain

Cover Photographer: Rodney Stewart

Illustrator: Nancy Munger

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# The future of Sunday school + family ministry is NOW.



No doubt about it, the world is changing. Families used to go to church every week. Kids used to have longer attention spans. Teachers used to have more time to prepare. And didn't our budgets used to be bigger?

Even the Sunday school Bible curriculum you used just a couple of years ago is already out of date. But there's one thing that's never changed: the need to grow families closer to Jesus.

That's why we created FaithWeaver NOW®, and it's different from anything you've ever seen before!

## **It combines Sunday school with family ministry.** ■■■■

Sure, you've seen Sunday school aimed at families. But FaithWeaver NOW actually hits the target by having everyone in the family learning about the same Scripture each week.

## **It's simpler and easier.** ■■■■

Sometimes change is a wonderful thing. Gone are the days when you needed to spend hours preparing your lessons and hunting for supplies. FaithWeaver NOW will have you and your team ready to go in a snap.

## **It's made for NOW.** ■■■■

Life is complicated and full of distractions. FaithWeaver NOW keeps faith on track through even the most frenzied lifestyles.

## **What makes FaithWeaver NOW the perfect curriculum for TODAY's church?**

- Families learn the same Bible passage in age-appropriate ways.
- Kids don't just hear the Word. They experience it.
- Simple and easy lessons fit even the busiest lives.
- Kids see God in their everyday world.
- The Scope & Sequence goes through the Bible every three years.
- You can customize it however you like, with both print and digital versions.



Plus, FaithWeaver NOW stays up to date. New content, new tools, new mobile apps, and more every year—all to keep the Bible fresh, relevant, and effective.

Create a vibrant family ministry that's new...that's wow...that's NOW. FaithWeaver NOW gives you a fresh strategy for being more successful than ever in bringing families closer to Jesus.

*Thom Schultz Joani Schultz*

Thom and Joani Schultz  
Chairman and Chief Creative Officer  
Group Publishing, Inc.








# Jesus Teaches About Good Fruit

Luke 6:43-45

Just as good nutrition is vital to a child's physical growth, a balance of "spiritual nutrients" is important for a child's spiritual growth. Bible stories, conversation about God's work in our lives, prayer, and the chance to demonstrate God's love are all important nutrients for the growing soul. Every situation offers opportunity to teach children about God's love. Thanks for making this critical difference!

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>God's Trees</b> Hear about how God makes both trees and children grow.	masking tape, scissors <b>Teacher Pack:</b> red felt, "Apple Tree" teaching picture 	Cut 1-inch circles from the red felt to represent apples. Put a loop of masking tape on the back of each felt circle.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Tummy Ticklers</b> Thank God for fruity gifts.		
	<b>God Helps Me Grow</b> Watch a paper child "grow" as they hear about God's plan.	construction paper, tape, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "God Helps Me Grow" page (at the end of the lesson), scissors	Cut out the face and feet of either the boy or girl. Accordion fold a 2x12-inch strip of construction paper, and tape one end to the head and the other end to the feet.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Letter to Parents and Lesson 1 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



► **Bible Point**  
God helps us grow.


**Key Verse**  
"You are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love" (Nehemiah 9:17).

**Weaving Faith Into Life**  
Children will learn that God helps good things to grow in our lives.





## TODDLER


LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Yummy Apples</b> Explore how apples and children grow by God's plan.	Bible, CD player, scissors, masking tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD, red felt, "Apple Tree" teaching picture 	Cut 1-inch circles from the red felt to represent apples. Put a loop of masking tape on the back of each felt circle.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Fruit Bracelets</b> Make and wear a bracelet.	masking tape, fruit-flavored cereal	
	<b>Fruit Basket</b> Match apples to learn that God wants us to grow to be like Jesus.	2 red, 2 green, and 2 yellow apples; basket	Place the apples in a basket.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Letter to Parents and Lesson 1 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.





## 2-YEAR-OLD

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Like Good Fruit</b> Learn about how God plans for children to grow.	Bible, CD player, scissors, masking tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD, red felt, gray felt, "Apple Tree" teaching picture 	Cut six circles from each color felt to represent apples. Save half of the gray felt for Lesson 4. Put a loop of masking tape on the back of each circle. Listen to "Apple Tree Sounds" on the CD to get a feel for how you need to pace the story and instructions.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Good Fruit in My Heart</b> Make a print of an apple heart to remind them that God is growing good fruit in their hearts.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "God Helps Me Grow" page (at the end of the lesson), sponge, paper plate, washable red paint, knife, apple	Remove the Lesson 1 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Pour washable red paint on a dampened sponge on a paper plate. Cut an apple in half along the stem.
	<b>Fruit Partners</b> Find partners to learn that God helps us grow.	2 red, 2 green, and 2 yellow apples; CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	Count out one apple for each child. If you have more than six children in your group, add more apples and have children pair up. Make sure you have more than one color of each apple, whether you have a large or small group.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Letter to Parents from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



# Jesus Teaches About Good Fruit

## Luke 6:43-45

BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

## Jesus Compares Trees to Authentic Faith

In his references to good and bad trees in this passage, Jesus is obviously drawing an analogy to the fruit that people bear. Notice that the distinction is not between healthy apple trees and diseased apple trees. It is between fruit trees and thorns or briers; it is the kind of tree that makes the difference. Many kinds of trees look good but don't produce fruit. So it is with people. Jesus seems to be saying that a person who is not really a servant of God, no matter how good he or she seems to be, cannot possibly produce fruit for him. Conversely, someone who really is God's servant will automatically produce fruit.

## The Heart Is Known Through Actions

Then in Luke 6:45, Jesus expounds on the principle he introduced in the tree metaphor. What comes out of us through our speech and behavior flows from what is within. If what is inside us is good and God-honoring, our lives will honor God. If what is inside us is evil, our lives will not honor God. No matter how hard we try to make good impressions, no one will be fooled for long if our hearts are deceitful.

## The Jesus Connection

As we make our relationship with Jesus a priority, we'll find our actions will bear fruit that will please him.

Read aloud Luke 6:43-45. What can you do to store good things in your heart? In what circumstances can you bring good things out of the good you've stored in your heart? If you passionately follow God, the good you've stored will flow out to a needy world. Ask God to show you someone in your church who has a need. And then do the good thing and help that person.

Don't forget to pray for the person! You can write your prayer here.

[illegible]

**INFANT****1****GETTING  
STARTED**

**Tip** Don't know the melodies to the songs in this guide? Download the 99-cent Kids Songs app by Alkeo and play the tunes for 200+ common children's songs.

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "I Am Growing" (track 2) to the tune of "Little Cabin in the Wood" to the babies anytime during the lesson. As you sing or listen to the song, stand holding a baby around his or her torso. Bend slightly at the beginning of each line, and raise baby up higher as the line progresses. End the song with a hug.



I am growing; God helps me.  
God helps me grow strong and big.  
I am growing; God helps me.  
God helps me grow.

Bigger, bigger every day!  
Watch me grow and grow each day!  
I am growing in God's way.  
God helps me to grow. Yeah!

Sing "Hey, Hey, Lord Jesus" (not on CD) to the tune of "Playmate" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Tap baby's hands or feet as you sing.



Hey, hey, Lord Jesus,  
Will you please help me grow  
Fruit that will please you so?  
I want the world to know  
I love you, Jesus!  
And since you're here with me,  
I know that I can be  
Your growing child.



### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "I Am Growing"  
(track 2)





### God's Trees Supplies

masking tape  
scissors

#### Teacher Pack

red felt  
"Apple Tree" teaching  
picture

### God's Trees Easy Prep

Cut 1-inch circles from  
the red felt to represent  
apples. Put a loop of  
masking tape on the  
back of each felt circle.

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## God's Trees

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

As you hold an infant, lay the teaching picture nearby.

Say: **God gave us wonderful trees. When this tree grows, it will have beautiful apples.** Attach the apples to the tree in the picture, and sing this song (not on CD) to the tune of "Ten Little Indians."

🎵 **One little, two little, three little apples,  
Four little, five little, six little apples,  
All the red and shiny apples,  
Growing as God planned.**

Say: **Good fruit grows on good trees. As we grow, good things come from us, too, like love, joy, and peace. ► GOD HELPS US GROW.**

## 3

### WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Tummy Ticklers

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Gently pat a baby's tummy as you ask the questions in the rhyme below. Wiggle your fingers against baby's tummy as you say, "Thank you, God."

**Is there an apple in your tummy?  
Was the apple good and yummy?  
Thank you, thank you, thank you, God!**

**Would you like a banana to eat?  
Would that be a yummy treat?  
Thank you, thank you, thank you, God!**

**Are you growing good fruit  
As you wear that baby suit?  
Thank you, thank you, thank you, God!**



Say: ► **GOD HELPS US GROW.** God is helping your body grow, and God is helping your loving heart to grow. Thank you, thank you, thank you, God!

## God Helps Me Grow

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Hold the accordion figure with the paper folded as you say this rhyme:

**Here's a happy little [boy or girl] who loves God, this we know.  
And as [he or she] walks with God each day, God will help [him or her] grow!**

Let the folded paper open so the legs bounce out, making the figure appear to grow. Do this several times.

Say: **God will help your body grow, and God will help you grow bear good fruit, too.**  
► **GOD HELPS US GROW!**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Send the letter to parents home with your kids or give it to parents when they pick up their kids. This is a great way to show families they're important to your church and to support their role as spiritual leaders to their kids.

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).



### God Helps Me Grow Supplies

construction paper  
tape  
My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
"God Helps Me Grow"  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)  
scissors

### God Helps Me Grow Easy Prep

Cut out the face and  
feet of either the boy  
or girl. Accordion fold  
a 2x12-inch strip of  
construction paper, and  
tape one end to the  
head and the other end  
to the feet.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
"Growing With Jesus"  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Letter to  
Parents and Lesson 1  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.





## Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

### Teacher Pack

CD: "I Am Growing"  
(track 2)

## TODDLER

### 1

## GETTING STARTED



**Tip** Don't know the melodies to the songs in this guide? Download the 99-cent Kids Songs app by Alkeo and play the tunes for 200+ common children's songs.

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do

Sing "I Am Growing" (track 2) to the tune of "Little Cabin in the Wood" anytime during the lesson. Have toddlers raise and lower their arms during each line of the song.



I am growing; God helps me.  
God helps me grow strong and big.  
I am growing; God helps me.  
God helps me grow.

Bigger, bigger every day!  
Watch me grow and grow each day!  
I am growing in God's way.  
God helps me to grow. Yeah!

Sing "Hey, Hey, Lord Jesus" (not on CD) to the tune of "Playmate" anytime during the lesson. Sing the song with one child at a time, touching your right palm to the child's right palm as you face each other.



Hey, hey, Lord Jesus,  
Will you please help me grow  
Fruit that will please you so?  
I want the world to know  
I love you, Jesus!  
And since you're here with me,  
I know that I can be  
Your growing child.





## 2

BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## Yummy Apples

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Place the teaching picture on the floor, and then gather one or two toddlers near you. Open the Bible to Luke 6:43-45.

Say: **The Bible says that God made all kinds of wonderful trees for us to enjoy! This is an apple tree. Let's see what happens to an apple tree.** Play "Apple Tree Sounds" (track 3). As the CD segment plays, say: **The apple tree sways in the gentle breeze. Can you raise your arms and sway in the breeze? God sends birds to the tree to make their nests. Can you flap your arms like a bird? The birds say, "Thank you, God, for our homes in the trees." God makes fruit grow on the tree!** At the sound of each apple growing, place a felt circle on the tree. Turn off the CD after the sixth "boing" sound.

Look at the big, juicy apples on that tree! God helps the apple tree to grow apples. God helps you grow, too. Show me how God is helping you grow tall. Stretch up high! Show me how God is helping you grow strong. Show me your muscles! Show me how God is helping you grow to be more loving. Give me a hug! God is helping you grow! ► **GOD HELPS US GROW!**

## 3

WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE

## Fruit Bracelets

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Wrap a loop of masking tape, sticky side out, on each toddler's wrist.

Say: **God is helping you grow each day! You're learning to be kind and loving. God is helping you learn to help and share.** ► **GOD HELPS US GROW.** Talk about other positive things you've noticed about each child. Press one piece of fruit-flavored cereal on the masking tape for each attribute you mention.

**Look how your bracelets have grown! You have lots of good fruit.** Throughout class point out the good fruit on each child's bracelet. **God helps** [child's name] **grow good fruit.** The tape may be torn or carefully cut off children's wrists.

Yummy Apples  
Supplies

Bible  
CD player  
scissors  
masking tape  
**Teacher Pack**  
CD: "Apple Tree Sounds" (track 3)  
red felt  
"Apple Tree" teaching picture

Yummy Apples  
Easy Prep

Cut 1-inch circles from the red felt to represent apples. Put a loop of masking tape on the back of each felt circle.

Fruit Bracelets  
Supplies

masking tape  
fruit-flavored cereal

**! ALLERGY  
■ ALERT**





### Fruit Basket Supplies

2 red, 2 green, and 2  
yellow apples  
basket



**ALLERGY  
ALERT**

### Fruit Basket Easy Prep

Place the apples in a  
basket.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Letter to  
Parents and Lesson 1  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.

## Fruit Basket

### What You'll Do

Set out the basket of apples. Work with one toddler at a time.

Say: **As ► GOD HELPS US GROW, we'll be more like Jesus. Let's see if you can find apples that have grown to look alike.** Help the child take the apples from the basket, matching pairs. Describe the apples by color, size, and shape as the child takes them out. **► GOD HELPS US GROW to be like Jesus. When we love and obey Jesus, we have good fruit.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Send the letter to parents home with your kids or give it to parents when they pick up their kids. This is a great way to show families they're important to your church and to support their role as spiritual leaders to their kids.

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

**2-YEAR-OLD****1****GETTING  
STARTED**

**Tip** Don't know the melodies to the songs in this guide? Download the 99-cent Kids Songs app by Alkeo and play the tunes for 200+ common children's songs.

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "I Am Growing" (track 2) to the tune of "Little Cabin in the Wood" anytime during the lesson. As twos sing, have them start each line in a squatting position and gradually stand up. Twos may also flex their muscles on the word "strong" and raise both arms as they sing, "God helps me." Have children jump up and down on the word "yeah."



I am growing; God helps me.  
God helps me grow strong and big.  
I am growing; God helps me.  
God helps me grow.

Bigger, bigger every day!  
Watch me grow and grow each day!  
I am growing in God's way.  
God helps me to grow. Yeah!

Sing "Hey, Hey, Lord Jesus" (not on CD) to the tune of "Playmate" anytime during the lesson. As you sing, help partners stand facing each other, clapping their palms together.



Hey, hey, Lord Jesus,  
Will you please help me grow  
Fruit that will please you so?  
I want the world to know  
I love you, Jesus!  
And since you're here with me,  
I know that I can be  
Your growing child.



### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "I Am Growing"  
(track 2)





## Like Good Fruit Supplies

Bible  
CD player  
scissors  
masking tape  
**Teacher Pack**  
CD: "Apple Tree Sounds" (track 3)  
red felt  
gray felt  
"Apple Tree" teaching picture

## Like Good Fruit Easy Prep

Cut six circles from each color felt to represent apples. Save half of the gray felt for Lesson 4. Put a loop of masking tape on the back of each circle. Listen to "Apple Tree Sounds" (track 3) on the CD to get a feel for how you need to pace the story and instructions.

## Good Fruit in My Heart Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "God Helps Me Grow" page (at the end of the lesson)  
sponge  
paper plate  
washable red paint  
knife  
apple



**ALLERGY  
ALERT**

## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

# Like Good Fruit

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Place the teaching picture on the floor near you. Gather the 2-year-olds.

Say: **God made all kinds of wonderful trees for us to enjoy! This is an apple tree. Let's see what happens to an apple tree.** Turn on the CD. As the CD segment plays, say: **The apple tree sways in the gentle breeze. Can you raise your arms and sway in the breeze? God sends birds to the tree to make their nests. Can you flap your arms like a bird? The birds say, "Thank you, God, for our homes in the trees." God makes fruit grow on the tree!** At the sound of each apple growing, place one of the red felt circles on the tree. Have the twos jump each time they hear a "boing" sound.

**Soon someone will come to pick the delicious apples. The person will climb a ladder. Climb up! Let's pick the apples. Hear them fall into the basket? Let's climb down so the birds won't be frightened. Now let's sit under the apple tree and rest.** Listen to the sound of rustling leaves until the end of the track.

Ask:

**What do you think the farmer would do if the apples looked like this?**

Hang the gray felt circles in place of the red. Say: **These apples don't look good to eat. If all the apples looked like this, the farmer might cut the tree down and plant another one that would grow yummy apples.**

Open your Bible to Luke 6:43-45.

Say: **Jesus told us that God wants to help us be like the tree that grows good fruit, not like the tree that grows yucky apples. Our fruit is love, kindness, joy, and other good things. ► GOD HELPS US GROW.**

## 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

# Good Fruit in My Heart

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Set out materials you prepared earlier.



Say: **God is growing good things inside you that others will someday see. Let's print some fruit hearts on these children to remember that ► GOD HELPS US GROW.** Help each child press the apple half on the sponge and then between the head and feet of each child on the handout.

Ask:

**What's something you can do to be loving? What's something you can do to be joyful?** You may need to prompt twos by asking, "Can you hug your friend?" or "Can you clap happy praise to God?"

Pray: **Thank you, God, for growing good fruit in my friend** [child's name].

## Fruit Partners

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Form a circle. Have the children pass the apples you counted out earlier as you play "I Am Growing" (track 2) on the CD. When you stop the music, let children join others who are holding the same color apple. Collect the apples, and lead partners in this action rhyme.

**Apples grow on tall, tall trees.** (*Hold hands above heads.*)

**Grass grows on the ground.** (*Squat while holding hands.*)

**But we are special; we're unique.** (*Stand while holding hands.*)

**We're growing all around.** (*Walk around in a circle.*)

Say: **You don't need to be on a tree to grow like apples or on the ground to grow like grass. You can grow anywhere! ► GOD HELPS US GROW.**



*continued*

### Good Fruit in My Heart Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 1 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Pour washable red paint on a dampened sponge on a paper plate. Cut an apple in half along the stem.

### Fruit Partners Supplies

2 red, 2 green, and 2 yellow apples

CD player

### Teacher Pack

CD: "I Am Growing" (track 2)



### Fruit Partners Easy Prep

Count out one apple for each child. If you have more than six children in your group, add more apples and have children pair up. Make sure you have more than one color of each apple, whether you have a large or small group.





### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Letter to Parents from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

## Weaving Faith at Home

Send the letter to parents home with your kids or give it to parents when they pick up their kids. This is a great way to show families they’re important to your church and to support their role as spiritual leaders to their kids.

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).





# Growing With Jesus



Your child learned God helps us grow (from Luke 6:43-45). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

## INFANT

### Tummy Ticklers

Gently pat your baby's tummy as you ask these questions, and wiggle your fingers against baby's tummy as you say, "Thank you, God."

**Is there an apple in your tummy?**

**Was the apple good and yummy?**

**Thank you, God!**

**Are you growing good fruit**

**As you wear that baby suit?**

**Thank you, God!**

Say: **God is helping your body grow, and God is helping your loving heart to grow. Thank you, thank you, thank you, God!**

## TODDLER

### Fruit Bracelets

Encourage your child with this simple game.

Say: **God is helping you grow each day! You're learning to be kind and loving. God is helping you learn to help and share. God is helping you grow.**

Wrap a loop of masking tape, sticky side out, on your toddler's wrist. Then press one piece of fruit-flavored cereal on the masking tape for each attribute you mention. Talk about other positive things you've noticed about your child.

Say: **Look how your bracelet has grown! You have lots of good fruit. God helps [child's name] grow good fruit.**

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### Fruit Partners

Lead your child in this action rhyme.

**Apples grow on tall, tall trees.** *(Hold hands above heads.)*

**Grass grows on the ground.** *(Squat while holding hands.)*

**But we are special; we're unique.** *(Stand while holding hands.)*

**We're growing all around.** *(Walk around in a circle.)*

**You don't need to be on a tree to grow like apples or on the ground to grow like grass. You can grow anywhere! God helps us grow. Thank you, God!** *(Clap your hands.)*



## Deep Lessons

Just as you provide a balanced diet for your child, give attention to a balanced spiritual diet, too. Bible stories, natural conversation about God's work in our lives, prayer, and even the chance to demonstrate God's love are all important "nutrients" to feed the growing soul. Every situation offers opportunity to teach young children about the love and nurture of their heavenly Father.



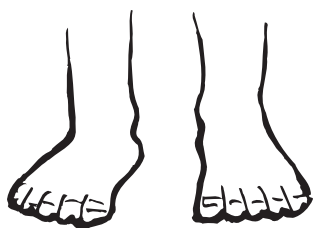
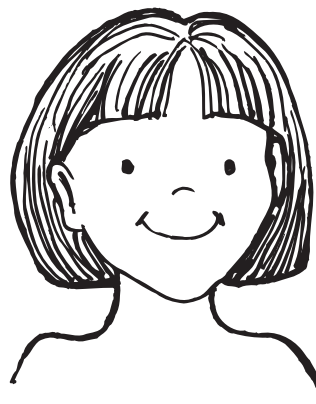
### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

As you go through the produce aisle, ask your child if the lettuce grew on an apple tree or if the apples grew on a banana tree. Remind your child that God helps good things grow in children who love him.

Start a growth chart. Show your child how tall he or she was at birth and now. Note evidences of your child's growth in acts of kindness, compassion, and love. Write notes about things your child does that touch your heart.

**OK  
TO COPY**

# God Helps Me Grow



**OK  
TO COPY**

Illustrated by Nancy Munger.






# Jesus Tells the Parable of the Lost Son

Luke 15:11-32

When you respond to a child's expression of negative emotion with loving patience, you are showing a tangible form of forgiveness. Your calmness helps a child to regain composure. The child receives the powerful message, "I will care for you no matter how you act." As little ones mature, your positive response can help children learn to accept the forgiveness that Christ offers.

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>God Loves Us</b> Hear the story of the lost son and learn how the father loved him.	toy man and boy figures (from a toy farm or toy bus) <b>Teacher Pack:</b> heart stickers 	
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>A "Pick-Me-Up"</b> Experience a loving action rhyme.		
	<b>Where's My Son?</b> Look for the lost son.	toy boy figure, 3 foam cups	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 2 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



## ► Bible Point

God is loving and forgiving.

## Key Verse

"You are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love" (Nehemiah 9:17).


## Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will begin to learn that God is loving and forgiving, regardless of our actions.






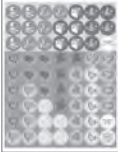
## TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Lost in the Pigpen</b> Hear Jesus' story of the lost son.	Bible, scissors, tape, cotton balls, large sandwich bag, red food coloring, box with lid, CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD, Prodigal Son finger puppet (from the teaching picture set) 	Place cotton balls in a large sandwich bag. Add several drops of red food coloring, and shake the bag until the cotton balls turn pink. Remove any pieces that have become too saturated with the food coloring. Put the pink cotton balls in a box with a lid. Cut out the Prodigal Son finger puppet.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Father's Love</b> Begin to understand the father's love through a song.		
	<b>Cleanup Work</b> Finger-paint, and then clean up a "boy."	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Prodigal Son" page (at the end of the lesson), whipped topping, cocoa powder, paper towels	Remove the Lesson 2 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.



## 2-YEAR-OLD

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Tale of Two Farms</b> Hear sounds from the story.	Bible, CD player, several 50-cent coins, unbreakable bank, glue, confetti or bits of paper <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD, party horn, "Lost Son Returns" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack) 	Put several coins in an unbreakable bank. Fifty-cent coins are safest around children.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Hide!</b> Hide from the teacher, and come "home" to receive "forgiveness."	several large boxes <b>Teacher Pack:</b> heart stickers 	Place several large boxes around the room.
	<b>A Loving Hug</b> Stamp a heart on a picture to show the father's love.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Prodigal Son" page (at the end of the lesson), shallow bowl of red washable paint, newspaper, potato, knife	Remove the Lesson 2 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Cut a potato in half. Carve a heart shape in each half, and then cut away the outer edge so the heart stands out. Set out a shallow bowl of red washable paint and copies of the "Prodigal Son" page. Cover the work space with newspaper.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



# Jesus Tells the Parable of the Lost Son

## Luke 15:11-32

BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

## The Younger Son Demands His Inheritance

In Jewish law, the oldest son received two-thirds of the inheritance, and the rest was divided among the other children. Since it appears that there were only two sons, the younger would have been entitled to one-third of the father's holdings. However, Jewish law did not allow a person to sell his father's land inheritance because it had been given by God. So in asking his father to give him the land early, the younger son was maneuvering against the law. Any Jew would have seen what the son was doing and would have refused to buy the land. It was also against the law to sell such land to a Gentile. Since that must have been what the younger son did, the Jews listening to this story would have been appalled.

## The Son Squanders His Inheritance

The next part of the story isn't hard to predict. The younger son foolishly spent his inheritance and was left with nothing. At that point, he realized how wrong he had been and decided to return to his father, hoping only that the father would accept him back as a hired hand. He was convinced that he had sacrificed his right to be his father's son. He now decided to do what he knew was right.

## The Humiliated Father Forgives the Son

Because a family would not normally forgive a son for such a sin, Jesus' listeners would have been extremely surprised and angry to hear that the man ran out to meet his returning son. What Jesus described was a father intent on getting to his son before the neighbors did. Even though the son had turned away, sinned willfully, and disgraced the family name, the father was waiting to forgive his

son and save him from the death he deserved. What a wonderful picture of our God, who watchfully waits, ready to forgive us when we return to him in repentance!

## The Jesus Connection

Picture a God anxious to meet you even when you feel ashamed. Know his love for you, and cherish the relationship you have with Jesus.

Who in your life doesn't "deserve" mercy? "They are just out of options." "They've made their bed..." "This change of heart won't last." Reach out to these people in kindness and joy. Pray for them right now. You can write your prayer here.

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There are no vertical margin lines, text, or other markings on the page.



## INFANT

## 1

GETTING  
STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "God Still Loves Me" (track 4) to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants.

♪ God still loves me when I sin,  
No matter how wrong I've been.  
God wants me to choose his way.  
God forgives me when I pray.  
Yes, God forgives me.  
Yes, God forgives me.  
Yes, God forgives me  
Because he loves me so.

Sing "When I Sin" (not on CD) to the tune of "Frère Jacques" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing it as a lullaby to calm a fussy baby.

♪ When I sin, when I sin,  
God forgives, God forgives.  
He will always love me.  
He will always love me.  
God forgives, God forgives.

## 2

BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## God Loves Us

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Seat a baby on your lap, and set the toy man and boy figures nearby. Hold up the figures.

Say: **This is a daddy, and this is his boy. One day the boy decided he didn't want to listen to his daddy anymore, so he left home.** Move the boy figure far away. **The daddy was very sad. He cried and cried that his boy wasn't home.** Frown and then

Sing and Celebrate  
Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "God Still Loves  
Me" (track 4)

God Loves Us  
Supplies

toy man and boy figures  
(from a toy farm or toy  
bus)

**Teacher Pack**

heart stickers



pretend to cry. **When the boy finally came home, the daddy was happy.** Bring the boy figure back to the man figure.

**The father forgave his boy and gave him lots of love and a big party.** Hug the baby. **Let's help the father show his boy love.** Help the baby place a heart sticker on the boy figure. Keep the sticker out of baby's mouth. **God is like that daddy. ► GOD IS LOVING AND FORGIVING.**

### 3

## WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### A "Pick-Me-Up"

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Seat a baby on your knees facing you as you do the following action rhyme together.

**There was a little boy** (*place baby's hands on his or her knees*)

**Who would not do right.** (*Shake head, and wave baby's hands.*)

**He said "no" to his dad and ran into the night.** (*Gently bounce baby on your knees.*)

**The boy felt sad.**

**The boy felt low.** (*Gently lay baby on his or her back.*)

**But his daddy soon forgave** (*raise baby to sitting position*)

**'Cause he loved his boy so!** (*Hug baby.*)

Say: ► **GOD IS LOVING AND FORGIVING, too.**

### Where's My Son?

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Cover a toy boy figure with an upside-down foam cup. Set two more cups upside down next to the first cup.

Ask:

**Where is that lost boy?** Point to one of the empty cups. **Do you think the lost boy is here?** Let the baby pick up the cup. Repeat until the baby finds the figure.

Say: **The father was so happy when he found his son. He forgave his son for running away. God is like the daddy. ► GOD IS LOVING AND FORGIVING.**

#### Where's My Son? Supplies

toy boy figure  
3 foam cups



## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

### TODDLER

## 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You’ll Do

Sing “God Still Loves Me” (track 4) to the tune of “Jesus Loves Me” anytime during the lesson. Let a toddler stand on your feet as you move with the music. Sweep the toddler into a hug during the last line of the song.

🎵 God still loves me when I sin,  
No matter how wrong I’ve been.  
God wants me to choose his way.  
God forgives me when I pray.  
Yes, God forgives me.  
Yes, God forgives me.  
Yes, God forgives me  
Because he loves me so.

Sing “When I Sin” (not on CD) to the tune of “Frère Jacques” to toddlers anytime during the lesson.

🎵 When I sin, when I sin,  
God forgives, God forgives.  
He will always love me.  
He will always love me.  
God forgives, God forgives.



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 2  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player  
**Teacher Pack**  
CD: “God Still Loves  
Me” (track 4)



### Lost in the Pigpen Supplies

Bible  
scissors  
tape  
cotton balls  
large sandwich bag  
red food coloring  
box with lid  
CD player  
**Teacher Pack**  
CD: "Pig Sounds"  
(track 5)  
Prodigal Son finger  
puppet (from the  
teaching picture set)

### Lost in the Pigpen Easy Prep

Place cotton balls in a large sandwich bag. Add several drops of red food coloring, and shake the bag until the cotton balls turn pink. Remove any pieces that have become too saturated with the food coloring. Put the pink cotton balls in a box with a lid. Cut out the Prodigal Son finger puppet.

## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

# Lost in the Pigpen

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Shape the Prodigal Son finger puppet around your index finger so a different picture is on each side of your finger. Tape the edges. Open your Bible to Luke 15.

Say: **What do you think is in my box? Listen for a clue.**

Play "Pig Sounds" (track 5); then open the box.

Say: **There are little pink pigs! Our story today is about a boy who found himself living with pigs.** Show the "clean boy" side of the finger puppet. **This boy had a daddy who loved him very much. But the boy didn't want to obey his daddy, so he left home. The daddy couldn't find his son.** Hide the finger puppet.

Ask:

**How do you think the daddy felt?**

Say: **For a while, the boy was happy. But then he ran out of money. He didn't have enough food to eat or a place to sleep.** Show the "dirty boy" side of the finger puppet. **He decided to go work for a pig farmer.**

Play the "Pig Sounds" again. Encourage the children to make pig sounds. Place the finger puppet in the box with the pink cotton balls, and then shake the box to cover the puppet.

Say: **Poor boy, lost among the little pink pigs! How do pigs smell? Was that a nice place to live? Can you find the boy?** Let a toddler dig through the cotton balls to find the puppet. **That boy decided to get out of the pigpen and go home. His daddy ran out to meet him. The daddy forgave him for running away. He gave his son clean clothes and good food. The boy was happy again. God is like that daddy. ► GOD IS LOVING AND FORGIVING when we make bad choices.**





## 3

WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE

## Father's Love

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Encourage one toddler at a time to hide from you as you “seek” him or her. Sing the following song to the tune of “Oh Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?” (not on CD).

♪ Oh where, oh where did my little boy go?  
Oh where, oh where could he be?  
He did something wrong,  
And doubts he belongs.  
Oh where, oh where can he be?

Oh there's my boy! Have you come home?  
How happy we will be.  
I'll give you a hug and all my love.  
How happy we will be!

Say: God is like that father! ► GOD IS LOVING AND FORGIVING.

## Cleanup Work

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Give each child a copy of the “Prodigal Son” page. Put about two tablespoons of whipped topping on the boy in the picture, and encourage toddlers to “finger-paint” the boy.

Say: **At home the boy was clean. When he went away, he got dirty from his bad choices. Remember how he lived in the dirt with the pigs?** Sprinkle some cocoa powder over the top of each picture. **Yucky! When the boy went home, his daddy forgave him and cleaned him up. Can you clean up the boy?** Give each child a paper towel, and help him or her wipe the handout clean. **God is like that daddy. ► GOD IS LOVING AND FORGIVING. God cleans us up when we ask him to.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

Cleanup Work  
Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Prodigal Son” page  
(at the end of the  
lesson)  
whipped topping  
cocoa powder  
paper towels

! ALLERGY  
ALERTCleanup Work  
Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 2  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.

Weaving Faith at  
Home  
Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)



### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

#### Teacher Pack

CD: "God Still Loves  
Me" (track 4)

### Tale of Two Farms Supplies

Bible

CD player

several 50-cent coins

unbreakable bank

glue

confetti or bits of paper

#### Teacher Pack

CD: "Pig Sounds"  
(track 5)

party horn

"Lost Son Returns"  
poster (from the Big  
Bible Poster Pack)

### Tale of Two Farms Easy Prep

Put several coins in an  
unbreakable bank. Fifty-  
cent coins are safest  
around children.

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### 1

## GETTING STARTED

# Sing and Celebrate

## What You'll Do

Sing "God Still Loves Me" (track 4) to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me" anytime during the lesson. As you sing, encourage your twos to hold hands with a partner and move around in a circle, hugging each other at the end of the song.



God still loves me when I sin,  
No matter how wrong I've been.  
God wants me to choose his way.  
God forgives me when I pray.  
Yes, God forgives me.  
Yes, God forgives me.  
Yes, God forgives me  
Because he loves me so.

Sing "When I Sin" (not on CD) to the tune of "Frère Jacques" anytime during the lesson.



When I sin, when I sin,  
God forgives, God forgives.  
He will always love me.  
He will always love me.  
God forgives, God forgives.

### 2

## BIBLE EXPLORATION

# Tale of Two Farms

## What You'll Do

Open your Bible to Luke 15. Say: **Jesus told a story about a father and a son. The father loved his son very much. He took very good care of his son.**

Ask:

**How do your parents take care of you? What are some rules at your house?**

Give twos time to respond.



Say: **The son did not want to listen to his father's rules. He decided to leave home. The father gave him a lot of money** (shake the bank) **and let him go, even though it made the father sad. Let's run like the son who ran away from home.** Let the children run in place as you remove all the coins from the bank and place them out of the children's reach.

**Shh! Listen! What's in the bank?** Shake the bank. **Nothing! The son lost all of his money. He sat down and cried.** Have the children sit down and pretend to cry. **Wait! I hear something else.** Turn on the CD to "Pig Sounds" (track 5). **What's that sound? The son had no money, no food, and no place to live. He was so poor that he had to live with pigs!**

Ask:

**How would you like to live with pigs?** Give twos time to respond.

Say: **The son was sorry he left home. He decided to go back home and ask his father if he could work on the family farm. While the son was still walking, someone came running to him. It was his father! He wanted to have a party because he was so glad to see his boy.** Blow the party horn.

Spread the "Lost Son Returns" poster on the floor.

Say: **Let's put some party confetti on this poster to show that the father wanted to throw a party when his son came home.**

Place several dots of glue on the poster, and give each child a few pieces of confetti or bits of paper. Help kids put their confetti on the glue to decorate the poster.

Say: **The father forgave his boy and hugged him tight. God is like that father. When we do bad things, God wants to forgive us because he loves us. Let's make some party noises to celebrate that ► GOD IS LOVING AND FORGIVING.** Blow the party horn, and encourage the twos to shout and clap.

### 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Hide!

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Gather the children.

Say: **The boy in the story did something wrong. The boy knew he was in big trouble, so he stayed away from his father for a long time. You can hide from me in one of the boxes while I count. I'll be waiting for you. When you're ready, come to me so I can show you how the father loved his son.**



### Hide! Supplies

.....  
several large boxes

**Teacher Pack**  
heart stickers

### Hide! Easy Prep

.....  
Place several large boxes around the room.





## A Loving Hug Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Prodigal Son” page  
(at the end of the  
lesson)  
shallow bowl of red  
washable paint  
newspaper  
potato  
knife



## A Loving Hug Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 2  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book. Cut a potato in  
half. Carve a heart  
shape in each half,  
and then cut away the  
outer edge so the heart  
stands out. Set out a  
shallow bowl of red  
washable paint and  
copies of the “Prodigal  
Song” page. Cover  
the work space with  
newspaper.

## Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

Count to 10 while the children hide, and then ask the children to “come home.” As each child approaches you, place a heart sticker on him or her.

Say: ► **GOD IS LOVING AND FORGIVING.** God is always ready for us to come to him.

## A Loving Hug

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Work with one or two children at a time. Demonstrate how to dip the potato stamp in the bowl, wipe the excess paint on the rim of the bowl, and stamp a heart shape on the boy. Explain that the heart reminds us of the love of the father.

Say: **God forgives just like the daddy in the Bible story did.** ► **GOD IS LOVING AND FORGIVING.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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# Growing With Jesus



**Y**our child learned God is loving and forgiving (from Luke 15:11-32). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

## INFANT

### Pick-Me-Up

Seat your baby on your knees, facing you, as you do the following action rhyme together.

**There was a little boy**  
*(place baby's hands on his or her knees)*  
**Who would not do right.**  
*(Shake head, and wave baby's hands.)*  
**He said "no" to his dad**  
**and ran into the night.**  
*(Gently bounce baby on your knees.)*  
**The boy felt sad.**  
**The boy felt low.** *(Gently lay baby on his or her back.)*  
**But his daddy soon**  
**forgave** *(raise baby to sitting position)*  
**'Cause he loved his boy**  
**so!** *(Hug baby.)*

## TODDLER

### Father's Love

Play Hide-and-Seek with your toddler, and then sing the following song to the tune of "Oh Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?"

**Oh where, oh where did my little child go?**  
**Oh where, oh where could he [she] be?**  
**He [She] did something wrong,**  
**And doubts he [she] belongs.**  
**Oh where, oh where can he [she] be?**  
**Oh there's my child!**  
**Have you come home?**  
**How happy we will be.**  
**I'll give you a hug and all my love.**  
**How happy we will be!**

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### Counting on a Caring God

Cut a potato in half. Carve a heart shape in each half, and then cut away the outer edge so the heart stands out. Set out a shallow bowl of red washable paint and some white paper. Cover your work space with newspaper. Show your child how to dip the potato stamp in the bowl, wipe the excess paint on the rim of the bowl, and stamp a heart shape on a piece of paper. Explain that the heart reminds us of the love of the father.

Say: **God forgives just like the daddy in the Bible story did. God is loving and forgiving.**



## Loving Patience

When you respond to expressions of negative emotions with loving patience, you are showing a tangible form of forgiveness. Your calmness helps your child to regain composure and to receive the powerful message, "I will care for you no matter how you act." As little ones mature, positive responses can help them learn to accept the forgiveness that Christ offers.



### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

Play a game of Hide-and-Seek. When you find your child, remind him or her that the father was happy when he found his lost son and that he was waiting to forgive the boy. Hug your child, and tell him or her how happy you are to see good choices.

Take a trip to a farm or a zoo. Show your child the pigs. Remind him or her how the lost son lived with the pigs and got all dirty, but the father forgave his son for leaving home and gave him new, clean clothes.

**OK  
TO COPY**

# Prodigal Son



**OK  
TO COPY**

Illustrated by Nancy Munger.




# Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

John 13:1-17

When little ones show attempts to be kind or helpful, it's important to recognize and nurture their efforts. While it's not always convenient to give a child time to help, it is a wise investment. When we cut short a kindness (such as an attempt to share a cookie) or a helpful act (such as trying to wipe up a spill), we unintentionally get in the way of an important part of a child's development. When children's attempts at helpfulness are continually thwarted, they may simply quit trying. Thanks for encouraging them to keep trying instead!

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Helping Others</b> Learn how Jesus helped others.	1 baby wipe per child, doll <b>Teacher Pack:</b> "Jesus and Disciples" teaching picture 	Have a baby wipe and a doll at hand.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Can You Help Me?</b> Help put a beanbag into a bucket and then remove it.	plastic bucket, small beanbag	
	<b>Help Me</b> Sing a song about helping.		
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 3 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



## ► Bible Point

God wants us to help others.

## Key Verse


"Christ died for us"  
(Romans 5:8).

## Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will begin to learn that everyone can help others.



## TODDLER


LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Washing the Disciples' Feet</b> Hear the story of Jesus' washing the disciples' feet.	Bible, 1 package of baby wipes <b>Teacher Pack:</b> "Jesus and Disciples" teaching picture 	Have a package of baby wipes nearby.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Loads of Help</b> Play a game to help load and unload a basket.	2 laundry baskets, socks (at least 1 per child)	Set two laundry baskets 6 feet apart, and then fill one of the baskets with balled-up socks.
	<b>Wash the Feet</b> "Wash" a footprint with colored water.	shallow container of water, food coloring, washcloth, permanent marker, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Jesus Wants Us to Help Each Other" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 3 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Gather a permanent marker, a shallow container of water colored with a few drops of food coloring, and a washcloth.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.





**2-YEAR-OLD**

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Jesus Wants Us to Help Each Other</b> Discover that Jesus washed the disciples' feet.	Bible, 1 package of baby wipes <b>Teacher Pack:</b> "Jesus and Disciples" teaching picture 	Have a package of baby wipes nearby.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Help Our Friends</b> Play a helping game.	yarn, tape	Tape several 4-foot pieces of yarn along the classroom floor.
	<b>Helping Hands</b> Attach symbols to their handouts to show ways we can help others.	1 adhesive bandage per child, glue, cloth, scissors, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Jesus Wants Us to Help Each Other" page (at the end of the lesson) <b>Teacher Pack:</b> heart stickers, toy stickers	Remove the Lesson 3 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



# Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

John 13:1-17

BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

## Jesus Offers to Perform a Demeaning Task

It is especially significant that Jesus washed the disciples' feet because none of the disciples was willing to stoop below the others to do this demeaning task. The washing of feet, necessary because people in Jesus' day all wore sandals, was customary before the beginning of any meal and was normally done by a servant as guests entered the house. However, since this was a private meal, there was apparently no servant there. The water, the basin, and the towel were there, and certainly the disciples thought about the fact that no one had washed their feet. But none of them took the initiative to do the washing before the meal. After the food had been set out, Jesus took action. John records all this in detail, likely feeling guilty for not being the one to pick up the towel and basin to serve his brothers and his Lord.

## Peter at First Refuses Jesus' Service

Peter's resistance to allowing Jesus to wash his feet revealed that Peter didn't understand what was really happening, part of which was Jesus illustrating the cleansing power of his death. Peter also exhibited pride in his refusal to let Jesus wash his feet. He didn't yet understand that Jesus came to serve, not to be served. Peter's rejection of Jesus' act was based on an understanding of the Messiah that didn't allow for such a humble, servantlike action.

## Go and Serve Others

Through his actions and words, Jesus commands us to serve one another as he served his disciples, but not specifically in the washing of feet. To claim to be exempt from such service would be to claim to be greater than Jesus himself. And it would not be enough for the disciples to recognize that they were to

serve one another; they needed to take action if they were to receive the blessing promised in John 13:17.

## The Jesus Connection

Jesus' entire mission was one of humility. Imagine a king leaving his posh palace to live as a homeless man, facing abuse and mistreatment. Ridiculous? Absolutely. Why did Jesus do what he did? All for the love of you and me.

Thank Jesus for making a way for you to someday live where he is. Acknowledge that because of him, you don't have to be afraid or ashamed about meeting God. Jesus bent down low to lift you up high. How can you live out your gratitude? Talk to God about that. You can write your prayer here.

[illegible]



## INFANT

## 1

GETTING  
STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "God Wants Us to Help Our Friends" (track 6) to the tune of "Pop! Goes the Weasel" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or change the infants. As you sing, rock a baby in your arms and then "pop" him or her up on the word "help" in the last line of the song.



God wants us to help our friends.  
He wants us to help each other.  
This is a way that we can be kind.  
Help one another!  
(Repeat)

Sing "I Can Be a Helper" (not on CD) to the tune of "Did You Ever See a Lassie?" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or change the infants.



I can be a helper, a helper, a helper.  
I can be a helper to show our God's love.  
I share with my friends.  
I put toys away.  
Oh, I can be a helper to show our God's love.

## 2

BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## Helping Others

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Hold a baby on your lap with his or her shoes and socks removed. Brush the baby wipe across baby's foot.

Say: **Wash those little baby toes! Get them all clean and fresh. Look! Someone else knows how to wash feet.** Show the teaching picture. **Jesus washed grown-up feet to show his friends that they were to help each other. Can you help me wash feet?** Let the baby use the baby wipe to wash the doll's feet. **You are a good helper. Jesus showed his friends how to be helpers, and he wants us to be helpers, too.**

Sing and Celebrate  
Supplies

CD player

## Teacher Pack

CD: "God Wants Us  
to Help Our Friends"  
(track 6)

Helping Others  
Supplies

1 baby wipe per child  
doll

## Teacher Pack

"Jesus and Disciples"  
teaching picture

Helping Others  
Easy Prep

Have a baby wipe and a  
doll at hand.



### Can You Help Me? Supplies

plastic bucket  
small beanbag

## 3

## WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

# Can You Help Me?

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Set a plastic bucket and a fist-sized beanbag on the floor.

Say: **Can you help me put the beanbag in the bucket?** Give the baby an opportunity to do this. You may have to assist baby. Once the beanbag is in the bucket, ask: **Can you take the beanbag out of the bucket?**

Repeat this game as long as baby is interested. To modify this game for crawlers, you can toss the beanbag away from the bucket and then let the baby crawl after the beanbag and retrieve it.

Say: **Thank you for helping me with the beanbag. You showed me how to be a good helper. Jesus showed his friends how to be helpers, and ► GOD WANTS US TO HELP OTHERS, too.**

# Help Me

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Hold a baby on your lap facing you while you sing the following song (not on CD) to the tune of "Alouette." If the baby can sit unassisted, seat him or her on the floor facing you. As you sing, help the baby to touch his or her nose and toes.



**Help me, help me, help me touch my nose.**

**Help me, help me, help me touch my toes.**

**Help me touch my little nose.**

**Help me touch my little toes.**

**Touch my nose, touch my toes. Ah!**

**Help me, help me, help me touch my nose,**

**Help me, help me, help me touch my toes!**

Repeat the song by changing the body parts from nose and toes to lips and hips and then eyes and thighs.



## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

### TODDLER

**1**

### GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You’ll Do

Sing “God Wants Us to Help Our Friends” (track 6) to the tune of “Pop! Goes the Weasel” anytime during the lesson. Sit on the floor facing a toddler during the song. Rock back and forth as you sing, and shake the toddler’s hand on the last line.



**God wants us to help our friends.**

**He wants us to help each other.**

**This is a way that we can be kind.**

**Help one another!**

*(Repeat.)*

Sing “I Can Be a Helper” (not on CD) to the tune of “Did You Ever See a Lassie?” anytime during the lesson. Hold hands with a toddler as you sing. Sway from side to side on the first two lines. As you sing line three, gently pull the toddler toward you. Gently push the toddler away from you as you sing line four. Then sway from side to side again as you sing the last line.



**I can be a helper, a helper, a helper.**

**I can be a helper to show our God’s love.**

**I share with my friends.**

**I put toys away.**

**Oh, I can be a helper to show our God’s love.**



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 3 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: “God Wants Us to Help Our Friends” (track 6)



### Washing the Disciples' Feet Supplies

Bible  
1 package of baby  
wipes

**Teacher Pack**  
"Jesus and Disciples"  
teaching picture

### Washing the Disciples' Feet Easy Prep

Have a package of baby  
wipes nearby.

### Loads of Help Supplies

2 laundry baskets  
socks (at least 1 per  
child)

### Loads of Help Easy Prep

Set two laundry baskets  
6 feet apart, and then  
fill one of the baskets  
with balled-up socks.

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## Washing the Disciples' Feet

### What You'll Do

Show one or two toddlers your Bible, opened to John 13. Hold up the teaching picture.

Say: **Jesus invited his friends to a special dinner. Yum. Before the friends sat down at the table, Jesus got out a bowl of water and a towel, and he washed their feet. He did it like this.** Take a baby wipe, and wipe it across the disciples' feet in the picture.

**Can you help me wash the friends' feet like Jesus did?** Give a baby wipe to a toddler, and let him or her wash the disciples' feet in the picture. As children wash the feet, sing this song (not on CD) to the tune of "Mulberry Bush."



**This is the way we wash the feet,  
Wash the feet, wash the feet.  
This is the way we wash the feet,  
Just like Jesus showed us.**

Say: **Thank you for helping to wash the feet. Jesus washed his friends' feet to show them how to be helpers. Jesus wants us to be helpers, too.**

## 3

### WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Loads of Help

### What You'll Do

Gather one or two toddlers in front of the laundry baskets you prepared earlier.

Say: **Can you help move all of these socks from this basket to the other basket?** Let children unload the basket of socks and put the socks into the empty basket. When they have completed the task, give each toddler a hug.

Say: **You were super helpers! ► GOD WANTS US TO HELP OTHERS. Thank you for being a helper like God wants you to be.**

Children may want to repeat this game several times.



## Wash the Feet

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Working with one toddler at a time, trace the toddler's shoe onto the handout with the permanent marker (so that the tracing will not be ruined by the water wash).

Say: **Jesus washed his friends' feet to show that he wanted his friends to be helpers. Show me how you can be a helper by washing the foot on your handout.** Give the toddler the washcloth, and instruct him or her to dip it into the colored water and then wipe it across the footprint.

**Jesus wants us to be helpers, and you are a terrific helper!**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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### 2-YEAR-OLD

1

### GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "God Wants Us to Help Our Friends" (track 6) to the tune of "Pop! Goes the Weasel" anytime during the lesson. As you play the song on the CD, pair up your twos. Let them hold hands with their partners and march and sway as they sing the song.



**God wants us to help our friends.  
He wants us to help each other.  
This is a way that we can be kind.  
Help one another!**  
(Repeat.)

Sing "I Can Be a Helper" (not on CD) to the tune of "Did You Ever See a Lassie?" anytime during the lesson. Do the motions in parentheses as you sing.



### Wash the Feet Supplies

shallow container of water  
food coloring  
washcloth  
permanent marker  
My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Jesus Wants Us to Help Each Other" page (at the end of the lesson)

### Wash the Feet Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 3 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Gather a permanent marker, a shallow container of water colored with a few drops of food coloring, and a washcloth.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player  
**Teacher Pack**  
CD: "God Wants Us to Help Our Friends" (track 6)





### Jesus Wants Us to Help Each Other Supplies

Bible  
1 package of baby wipes

**Teacher Pack**  
“Jesus and Disciples” teaching picture

### Jesus Wants Us to Help Each Other Easy Prep

Have a package of baby wipes nearby.



**I can be a helper, a helper, a helper.** (Clap each time you sing “helper.”)  
**I can be a helper to show our God’s love.** (Clap when you sing “helper”; then cross arms over chest.)  
**I share with my friends.** (Stretch arms out in front of you.)  
**I put toys away.** (Put hands behind back.)  
**Oh, I can be a helper to show our God’s love.** (Clap when you sing “helper”; then cross arms over chest.)

## 2

## BIBLE EXPLORATION

# Jesus Wants Us to Help Each Other

## What You’ll Do

Gather the 2-year-olds together. Show children your Bible, opened to John 13. Take off the 2-year-olds’ shoes and socks.

Say: **Stomp your feet if you’ve helped put toys away.** Let the twos respond. **Stomp your feet if you’ve helped by sharing with your friends.** Let the twos respond. **Wow, you are good helpers! Today we are going to hear a story about helping.**

Show the “Jesus and Disciples” teaching picture.

Say: **One night Jesus was having supper with all of his friends. He got a bowl of water and a towel, and can you guess what he did? He washed each of his friends’ feet. Do you know why he did this? Jesus washed his friends’ feet to show that he wanted them to be helpers. He taught them how to help by being a helper himself.**

Ask:

**Do you want to be helpers like Jesus?** Wait for children to respond.

Say: **We are going to wash each other’s feet just as Jesus washed the feet of his friends.**

Pair up the twos, and then give a baby wipe to each child. As children wash each other’s feet, sing the following song (not on CD) to the tune of “Mulberry Bush.”



**This is the way we wash our feet,  
Wash our feet, wash our feet.  
This is the way we wash our feet,  
Just as Jesus showed us.**

Say: **Jesus wants us to be like him. Jesus is a helper. He showed us how to be helpers when he washed his friends’ feet. We can be like Jesus when we help each other.**





Ask:

What are some things you can do to help your friends?

.....

**3**

## WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### Help Our Friends

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Pair up the twos. Sing the following song (not on CD) to the tune of “The Wheels on the Bus” while one child holds the partner’s hand and helps him or her walk along the line of yarn.



I can be a helper to my friend,  
To my friend, to my friend.  
I can be a helper to my friend,  
'Cause Jesus showed us how.

After 2-year-olds have done this once, have partners switch places and do the activity-song again.

### Helping Hands

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Set out the supplies you gathered earlier. Work with one 2-year-old at a time.

Trace the child’s hand onto a “Jesus Wants Us to Help Each Other” handout.

Say: ► **GOD WANTS US TO HELP OTHERS.** Give the child an adhesive bandage. Help him or her attach it to the traced hand on the paper. **We can be helpers by taking care of people when they are hurt or sick.** Give the child a cloth square with a dot of glue on it, and have him or her glue the cloth on the hand. **We can be helpers by helping to clean up.** Give the child a heart sticker, and help him or her attach it to the hand. **We can be helpers by giving someone a hug when they are sad.** Give the child a toy sticker, and instruct him or her to attach it to the hand. **We can be helpers by putting away our toys.**



#### Help Our Friends Supplies

.....

yarn  
tape

#### Help Our Friends Easy Prep

.....

Tape several 4-foot pieces of yarn along the classroom floor.

#### Helping Hands Supplies

.....

1 adhesive bandage per child  
glue  
cloth  
scissors  
My Bible Snuggles or  
1 copy per child of  
the “Jesus Wants Us  
to Help Each Other”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

**Teacher Pack**  
heart stickers  
toy stickers

#### Helping Hands Easy Prep

.....

Remove the Lesson 3 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.





### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

.....

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).





# Growing With Jesus



Your child learned God wants us to help others (from John 13:1-17). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

## INFANT

### Help Me

Sing the following song to the tune of “Alouette” and help your baby to touch his or her nose and toes as you sing.

**Help me, help me, help me touch my nose.  
Help me, help me, help me touch my toes.  
Help me touch my little nose.  
Help me touch my little toes.  
Touch my nose, touch my toes. Ah!  
Help me, help me, help me touch my nose,  
Help me, help me, help me touch my toes!**

Repeat the song by changing the body parts from nose and toes to lips and hips and then eyes and thighs.

## TODDLER

### Loads of Help

Set two laundry baskets 6 feet apart. Fill one of the baskets with balled-up socks, and then call your toddler over.

Ask: **Can you help move all of these socks from this basket to the other basket?** Let your child unload the basket of socks and put the socks into the empty basket. When he or she has completed the task, give your toddler a hug.

Say: **You were a super helper! Jesus wants us to help each other. Thank you for being a helper like Jesus wants you to be.**

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### Help Our Friends

Tape a 4-foot piece of yarn along the floor. Sing the following song to the tune of “The Wheels on the Bus” while you hold your child’s hand and help him or her walk along the line of yarn.

**I can be a helper to my friend,  
To my friend, to my friend.  
I can be a helper to my friend,  
'Cause Jesus showed us how.**



## Thanks!

When your child attempts to be kind or helpful, it’s important to recognize and nurture the effort. While it’s not always convenient to give children time to help, it is a wise investment. This is how children come to see their contributions as meaningful. Our expressions of appreciation build our children’s confidence.

### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

Invite your child to help you prepare for a meal. Have him or her put a napkin at each place. Praise your child for helping.

In a bubble bath, make a beard of bubbles on your child. Help wash the bubbles away. Place bubbles on your child’s head and chest, and help wash the bubbles away. As you wash your child’s feet, talk about the story of Jesus’ washing the disciples’ feet. Remember together that God wants us to help each other.

**OK  
TO COPY**

# Jesus Wants Us to Help Each Other

 **OK  
TO COPY**




# Jesus Is Tried and Crucified

Luke 19:28-40; 23:1-49

While babies and young children do not grasp the concept of death or resurrection, they are beginning to understand the concept of giving. Use this lesson to expose these little ones to the fact that Jesus gave everything he had because he loves them.

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Jesus Came</b> Hear the story of Jesus' arriving in Jerusalem on a donkey.	scissors <b>Teacher Pack:</b> gray felt, Jesus figure (from the teaching picture set) 	Cut a simple donkey shape from the felt, and cut the Jesus figure on the dotted lines.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Here Is the Donkey</b> Hear a rhythmic verse about Jesus and the donkey.		
	<b>Crawling Over Cloaks</b> Crawl across towels, just as the donkey walked on cloaks.	a few towels	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 4 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



## ► Bible Point

Jesus died for us.

## Key Verse


"Christ died for us"  
(Romans 5:8).

## Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will hear the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on a donkey's back and begin to learn that Jesus died for our sins.




## TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>The People Watched</b> Hear the story of Jesus' entering Jerusalem where the people praised him.	Bible, scissors, silk leaf frond <b>Teacher Pack:</b> gray felt, Jesus figure (from the teaching picture set), fabric squares 	Set aside the silk leaf frond you brought to class. Cut a simple donkey shape from the felt, and cut the Jesus figure on the dotted lines.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Cloaks on the Ground</b> Step on towels, just as the donkey walked on cloaks, and hear a song.	a few towels	
	<b>Cross Reminders</b> Form crosses with craft sticks.	craft sticks, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Crosses" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 4 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.

**2-YEAR-OLD**

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Blessed Is Jesus</b> Hear the story of Jesus' entering Jerusalem and dying for us.	Bible, 2 craft sticks, glue, scissors <b>Teacher Pack:</b> gray felt, Jesus figure (from the teaching picture set), fabric squares 	Cut a simple donkey shape from the felt, and cut the Jesus figure on the dotted lines. Glue two craft sticks in the shape of a cross.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Here Comes Jesus on the Donkey</b> Act out the story.	several towels	
	<b>Jesus Died for Us</b> Glue craft sticks in the shape of a cross on the handout.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Crosses" page (at the end of the lesson) green crayons, glue stick, 2 craft sticks per child	Remove the Lesson 4 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*









## INFANT

## 1

GETTING  
STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Sing "His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) (track 7) to the babies anytime during the lesson.



**God loves us.**

**God sent his Son to die for us**

**Because of his great love.**

*(Repeat.)*

**His great love,**

**God showed his great big love**

**By sending Christ to die for us**

**While we were still sinners.**

*(Repeat.)*

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

**His great love, his great love, his great love.**

"His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) by Ben Glover. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Sing "Jesus Rode Into Town" (not on CD) to the tune of "Give Me Oil in My Lamp" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Hold an infant on your lap facing you while you sing, and gently bounce the baby on your knees as if he or she were riding on a donkey.



**Jesus rode into town on a donkey, donkey, donkey.**

**Jesus rode into town that day.**

**Jesus rode into town on a donkey, donkey, donkey.**

**And the people shouted out their praise.**

**"Praise to Jesus, praise to Jesus,**

**Praise to Jesus, he's the Son of God!**

**Praise to Jesus, praise to Jesus,**

**Praise to Jesus, he's God's Son!"**

**Sing and Celebrate  
Supplies**

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "His Great Love"

(Romans 5:8) (track 7)



### Jesus Came Supplies

scissors

#### Teacher Pack

gray felt

Jesus figure (from the  
teaching picture set)

### Jesus Came Easy Prep

Cut a simple donkey  
shape from the felt, and  
cut the Jesus figure on  
the dotted lines.

### Crawling Over Cloaks Supplies

a few towels

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## Jesus Came

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sit on the floor with a baby on your lap.

Say: **Jesus went to the big city of Jerusalem. He rode to town on a donkey. The donkey said, "Heehaw, heehaw." Would you like to pet the donkey?** Let the baby touch the felt donkey. **Let's put Jesus on the donkey.** Put the Jesus figure on the donkey's back.

**The people shouted, "Hooray for Jesus. Praises to the King!" Jesus said, "Let the people praise," and the donkey said, "Heehaw, heehaw." Jesus went to Jerusalem, where he died for us.**

Return the Jesus figure to the Teacher Pack for later lessons.

## 3

### WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Here Is the Donkey

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sit on the floor near an infant. Say the following verse. On the words "clip-clop, clip-clop," slap your thighs in rhythm to the verse.

**Here is the donkey, clip-clop, clip-clop.  
The donkey took Jesus, clip-clop, clip-clop.  
The people watched Jesus, clip-clop, clip-clop.  
People sang praises, clip-clop, clip-clop,  
To Jesus the king, clip-clop, clip-clop.**

## Crawling Over Cloaks

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Place towels on the floor. Allow the babies to crawl over the towels as they choose.

Say: **The people showed how much they loved Jesus. They threw their coats on**



the ground for Jesus' donkey to walk on. God showed us how much he loved us by sending Jesus to die for us.

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

### TODDLER

#### 1

#### GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) (track 7) anytime during the lesson.



**God loves us.**

**God sent his Son to die for us**

**Because of his great love.**

*(Repeat.)*

**His great love,**

**God showed his great big love**

**By sending Christ to die for us**

**While we were still sinners.**

*(Repeat.)*

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

**His great love, his great love, his great love.**

"His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) by Ben Glover. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Sing "Jesus Rode Into Town" (not on CD) to the tune of "Give Me Oil in My Lamp" anytime during the lesson. Hold a toddler on your knees facing you while singing. On the verse gently bounce the toddler up and down as if he or she were riding on a donkey.



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 4 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) (track 7)



### The People Watched Supplies

Bible  
scissors  
silk leaf frond  
**Teacher Pack**  
gray felt  
Jesus figure (from the  
teaching picture set)  
fabric squares

### The People Watched Easy Prep

Set aside the silk leaf  
frond you brought to  
class. Cut a simple  
donkey shape from the  
felt, and cut the Jesus  
figure on the dotted lines.

On the chorus stop bouncing and hold the toddler's hands in yours. Raise his or her hands high each time you sing "Praise to Jesus." Roll the child's hands over each other on "he's the Son of God" and "he's God's Son."



**Jesus rode into town on a donkey, donkey, donkey.**

**Jesus rode into town that day.**

**Jesus rode into town on a donkey, donkey, donkey.**

**And the people shouted out their praise.**

**"Praise to Jesus, praise to Jesus,  
Praise to Jesus, he's the Son of God!  
Praise to Jesus, praise to Jesus,  
Praise to Jesus, he's God's Son!"**

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## The People Watched

### What You'll Do

Sit on the floor next to a toddler. Show him or her Jesus and the donkey. Open your Bible to Luke 19, and show the toddler the words.

Say: **Our Bible tells us that Jesus sent his disciples to get a donkey. His disciples found a soft donkey for Jesus to ride. Can you help me put Jesus on the donkey's back?** Allow time for the toddler to feel the felt donkey and to help place the Jesus figure on it. **The donkey announced that Jesus was coming with a loud "Heehaw, heehaw."**

**The people who saw Jesus were happy. They pulled branches off trees and waved them.** Let the toddler wave the silk leaf frond. **They put their coats on the ground to show their love for Jesus.** Give the toddler a fabric square to lay on the floor. Have the donkey walk across the cloth. **The people shouted, "Blessed be Jesus. Praises to the King!" Jesus said, "Let the people praise," and the donkey said, "Heehaw, heehaw."**

**Jesus loved the people so much that he died for all the bad things they did.**

► **JESUS DIED FOR US, too.**

Return the Jesus figure and the fabric squares to the Teacher Pack for later lessons.



## 3

WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE

## Cloaks on the Ground

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Place towels on the floor. Encourage the toddlers to step from towel to towel as you sing the following song (not on CD) to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb."



**Jesus rode a donkey colt,  
Donkey colt, donkey colt.  
Jesus rode a donkey colt,  
And people praised him so.**

Applaud and shout "Hosanna!" after you sing the last line.

Say: **The people threw their coats on the ground for Jesus' donkey to walk on. The donkey stepped on the coats the way you stepped on the towels. Jesus knew the people loved him. Soon Jesus would show how much he loved the people by dying for them.**

## Cross Reminders

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Call one toddler over at a time to do his or her handout.

Say: **A few days after Jesus rode the donkey, he walked to a hill to die for us. When we see a cross, it reminds us that ► JESUS DIED FOR US.**

Show the child how to make a cross with craft sticks. Lay down a craft stick, and encourage the toddler to put one down on top to form a cross. As you form each cross, say "Jesus." Continue forming crosses until the child's interest wanes.

Say: **Jesus showed his love on the cross. Thank you, Jesus.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).



### Cloaks on the Ground Supplies

.....  
a few towels

### Cross Reminders Supplies

.....  
craft sticks  
My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
"Crosses" page (at the  
end of the lesson)

### Cross Reminders Easy Prep

.....  
Remove the Lesson 4  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

.....  
My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
"Growing With Jesus"  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)



## Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

### Teacher Pack

CD: "His Great Love"  
(Romans 5:8) (track 7)

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### 1

## GETTING STARTED

# Sing and Celebrate

## What You'll Do

Sing "His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) (track 7) anytime during the lesson.



**God loves us.**

**God sent his Son to die for us**

**Because of his great love.**

*(Repeat.)*

**His great love,**

**God showed his great big love**

**By sending Christ to die for us**

**While we were still sinners.**

*(Repeat.)*

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

**His great love, his great love, his great love.**

"His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) by Ben Glover. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Sing "Jesus Rode Into Town" (not on CD) to the tune of "Give Me Oil In My Lamp" anytime during the lesson. As you sing, gather several 2-year-olds, and sing the verse and chorus. As you sing the words of the verse, encourage the children to gallop around the room with you. For the chorus stop galloping, and stand in place. For each "praise to Jesus," jump, throw your arms in the air, and spread your feet apart, as if cheering.



**Jesus rode into town on a donkey, donkey, donkey.**

**Jesus rode into town that day.**

**Jesus rode into town on a donkey, donkey, donkey.**

**And the people shouted out their praise.**

**"Praise to Jesus, praise to Jesus,**

**Praise to Jesus, he's the Son of God!**

**Praise to Jesus, praise to Jesus,**

**Praise to Jesus, he's God's Son!"**



2

BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## Blessed Is Jesus

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Gather the 2-year-olds on the floor next to you. Open your Bible to Luke 19, and show the words to the children.

Say: **Our Bible story is about Jesus going to Jerusalem. Jesus sent his friends to get a donkey for him to ride. Jesus rode into town on the donkey. The donkey said, "Heehaw, heehaw." Can you make a sound like a donkey?**

Pass the felt donkey around, and have each child make the donkey sound when the donkey comes to him or her. When the donkey returns to you, place the Jesus figure on the donkey.

Say: **The people were so happy to see Jesus. They knew he was God's Son. They wanted to show Jesus how happy they were to see him. The people threw their coats on the ground for the donkey to walk on.**

Give a child the fabric squares. Show him or her how to gently toss the fabric on the floor and shout "Hosanna!" Let children take turns with the fabric squares. Pass the felt donkey around again, and then walk the donkey and Jesus figure across the fabric.

Say: **The people gave their happiness and praise to Jesus. Soon Jesus would give something to the people. Jesus gave his life by dying on a cross because he loved the people of Jerusalem. Jesus gave his life for the people in our town, too. Jesus died for [child's name].** Touch the craft-stick cross to each child's hand as you name each child. ► **JESUS DIED FOR US. Thank you, Jesus, for dying for us.**

Return the Jesus figure and the fabric squares to the Teacher Pack.

3

WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE

## Here Comes Jesus on the Donkey

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Choose one child to be the donkey. Have the other children stand around him or her, holding towels. Say the following rhyme, and encourage children to act out the story as you go. Act it out several times, choosing different children to be the donkey each time.



### Blessed Is Jesus Supplies

Bible  
2 craft sticks  
glue  
scissors  
**Teacher Pack**  
gray felt  
Jesus figure (from the  
teaching picture set)  
fabric squares

### Blessed Is Jesus Easy Prep

Cut a simple donkey shape from the felt, and cut the Jesus figure on the dotted lines. Glue two craft sticks in the shape of a cross.

### Here Comes Jesus on the Donkey Supplies

several towels





### Jesus Died for Us Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Crosses” page (at the  
end of the lesson)  
green crayons  
glue stick  
2 craft sticks per child

### Jesus Died for Us Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 4  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

**Here comes Jesus on a donkey.** (Have the “donkey” crawl slowly and say, “Heehaw, heehaw.”)

**The people spread their coats and sing.** (Have the children lay their towels on the floor and say, “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!”)

**Here comes Jesus on a donkey.** (Have the donkey crawl over the towels on the floor and say, “Heehaw, heehaw.”)

**The people sing praises to the king.** (Have the children raise their hands in the air, as if cheering, and say, “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!”)

## Jesus Died for Us

### What You’ll Do

Call one 2-year-old over at a time to work on a handout.

Say: ► **JESUS DIED FOR US on a cross. When we see a cross, it reminds us of Jesus’ gift of love to us.**

Encourage the child to use a green crayon to color the grass on the hill in the picture. Help him or her use a glue stick to glue the craft sticks in a cross shape in the middle of the picture.

Pray: **Thank you, Jesus, that you loved us enough to die for us.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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# Growing With Jesus



**Y**our child learned Jesus died for us (from Luke 19:28-40; 23:1-49). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

## INFANT

### Here Is the Donkey

Sit on the floor near your infant and say the following verse. On the words “clip-clop, clip-clop,” slap your thighs in rhythm to the verse.

**Here is the donkey,  
clip-clop, clip-clop.  
The donkey took Jesus,  
clip-clop, clip-clop.  
The people watched Jesus,  
clip-clop, clip-clop.  
People sang praises,  
clip-clop, clip-clop,  
To Jesus the king,  
clip-clop, clip-clop.**

## TODDLER

### Cloaks on the Ground

Place towels on the floor. Then encourage your toddler to step from towel to towel as you sing the following song to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb.”

**Jesus rode a donkey colt,  
Donkey colt, donkey colt.  
Jesus rode a donkey colt,  
And people praised him so.**

Applaud and shout “Hosanna!” after you sing the last line.

Say: **The people threw their coats on the ground for Jesus’ donkey to walk on. The donkey stepped on the coats the way you stepped on the towels. Jesus knew the people loved him. Soon Jesus would show how much he loved the people by dying for them.**

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### Here Comes Jesus on the Donkey

Have your child be the donkey, and you hold a towel. Say the following rhyme with your child, and encourage him or her to act out the story as you go.

**Here comes Jesus on a donkey.** (*Have the “donkey” crawl and say “Heehaw, heehaw.”*)

**The people spread their coats and sing.** (*Lay your towel on the floor and say, “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!”*)

**Here comes Jesus on a donkey.** (*Have the donkey crawl over the towel on the floor and say “Heehaw, heehaw.”*)

**The people sing praises to the king.** (*Join your child in raising your hands in the air, as if cheering, and say, “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!”*)



## Easter Traditions

Many parents struggle with keeping a spiritual emphasis on Easter. Whatever your decisions are about Easter bunnies and colored eggs, celebrate this season in ways that will establish meaningful traditions in your family. Traditions bind families together. When those traditions include activities centered on church, they are powerful tools to bind children to the things of God.

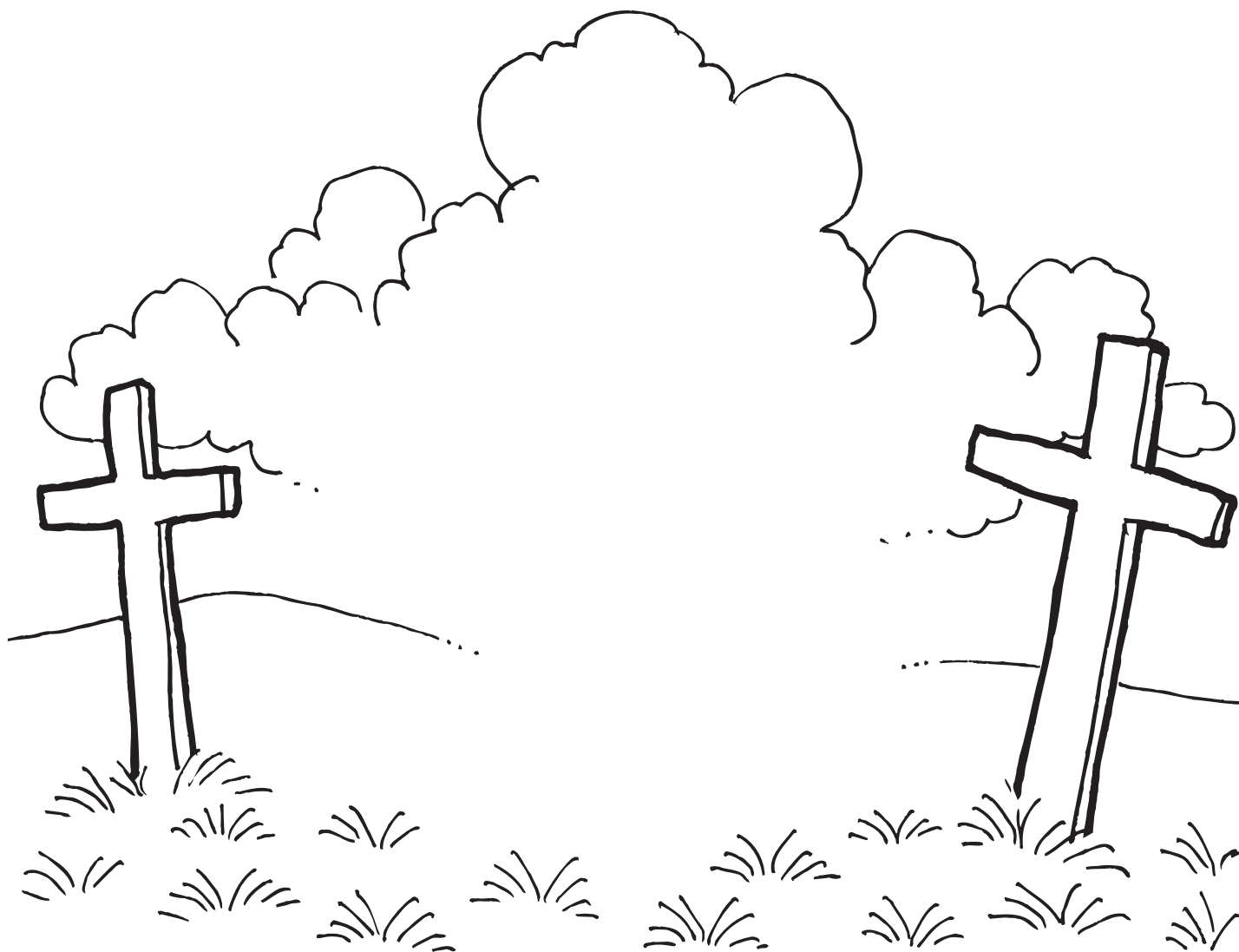


### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

Play Donkey Tag. Place a coat in the middle of the floor, and chase each other on hands and knees. When your child is on the coat, offer a big hug. Remind your child that people showed their love for Jesus by sharing their coats with him. Jesus showed his love by giving his life. Each time you see a cross this week, help your child say “Jesus.”

**OK  
TO COPY**

# Crosses



**OK  
TO COPY**

Illustrated by Nancy Munger.






# Jesus Appears to Mary

John 20:1-18

The children in your nursery are not too young to pick up on the joy of the Easter season. While they will not yet appreciate the spiritual significance of the Resurrection, they will understand that Easter is something special. Provide an atmosphere of celebration to help little ones grasp the joy of the season! Your joy is contagious!

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Where's Jesus?</b> Look for Jesus in a lift-and-look book.	stapler, scissors, bathroom tissue, tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> Mary finger puppet, "Scenes From the Garden" teaching picture 	Cut out the Mary finger puppet. Cut out all of the squares from the teaching picture, and stack them faceup, putting a square of tissue over each picture. Place the cover page on top of the stack and the picture of Jesus at the bottom. Staple the book together, and cover the staples with a piece of tape.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>He's Alive!</b> Hear a verse about Easter.	construction paper, tape, scissors <b>Teacher Pack:</b> Jesus figure (from the teaching picture set) 	Accordion fold two 1/2x4-inch strips of construction paper. Tape the paper strips to the back of the Jesus figure, one at the top and one at the bottom. Fold a sheet of construction paper in half horizontally, and tape the other end of the accordion strips to the inside of the sheet, one on each side of the fold. Close the "book," carefully folding the Jesus figure in half, making a pop-up book.
	<b>Shell-ebrate!</b> Find Jesus in a colorful Easter basket. 	Easter basket, several plastic Easter eggs <b>Teacher Pack:</b> Jesus figure (from the teaching picture set)	Fill an Easter basket or a large bowl with several colorful plastic Easter eggs. Gently remove the Jesus figure from the pop-up book you made for the "He's Alive!" activity, and hide it in the basket under the eggs.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 5 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

***Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.***



## ► Bible Point

Jesus is alive.

## Key Verse



"Christ died for us"  
(Romans 5:8).

## Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will learn that Jesus is alive.




## TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Sing or listen to praise songs.	CD player, picture of Jesus <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Egg-citing News!</b> Hear the story of how Mary found Jesus alive.	Bible, glitter glue, several plastic Easter eggs, scissors, tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> Mary and angel finger puppets 	Cut out the Mary and angel finger puppets. Decorate the angel finger puppet with glitter glue. When the glue is dry (allow a few hours), fold the angel finger puppet in half, and place it in a plastic Easter egg.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Glory Shakers</b> Make maracas to celebrate the Easter story.	1 plastic Easter egg per child, uncooked rice, glue, tape, funnel, newspaper, CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
	<b>I've Found Him!</b> Add a picture of Jesus to the take-home page to help Mary find Jesus.	bathroom tissue, box, glue sticks, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Mary at the Tomb" page (at the end of the lesson), scissors <b>Teacher Pack:</b> "Scenes From the Garden" teaching picture, Mary finger puppet 	Remove the Lesson 5 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Make a copy of Jesus from the "Scenes From the Garden" teaching picture for each child (and a few extras for your Easter Sunday visitors). Cut out the figures. Unroll a roll of bathroom tissue into a box. Hide the pictures of Jesus among the mounds of tissue. Set aside the Mary finger puppet.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



## 2-YEAR-OLD

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Sing or listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Empty Tomb</b> Hear the story of how Mary found Jesus alive.	Bible, CD player, tape, piece of cloth or paper <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD, “Mary Sees Jesus” poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack) 	Tape a piece of cloth or paper over the picture of Jesus on the “Mary Sees Jesus” poster, taping across the top of the cloth or paper so children will be able to lift it to see Jesus underneath. Hang the poster where kids will be able to see it.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Easter Parade</b> March in a parade to celebrate Easter.	crepe paper streamer for each child, scissors, CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	For each child, cut a 2-foot piece of colored crepe paper streamer.
	<b>Empty-Tomb Necklaces</b> Make a necklace to remember Jesus is alive.	electric drill, one 36-inch length of yarn and 1 plastic Easter egg per child, sharpened pencil	Use a small electric drill to create holes in each end of plastic Easter eggs.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 5 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



# Jesus Appears to Mary

## John 20:1-18

BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

## Mary, John, and Peter Discover an Empty Tomb

It is obvious from Mary's response and from that of the disciples that no one expected Jesus to rise from the dead.

The “other disciple” mentioned in verse 2 was John himself. Even though he arrived at the tomb first, he didn’t go in immediately. Bold, impetuous Peter arrived after John and burst into the tomb to see what had happened. The body was gone, but the grave clothes were still there. In fact, the wrap that had been on Jesus’ head was folded up, not tossed carelessly as a grave robber might have done. We aren’t told of Peter’s response, but we see that when John followed him in and saw the position of the grave clothes, John believed.

Peter and John left the tomb, but Mary couldn't. For her, the disappearance of Jesus' body was still a mystery. As she stood outside sobbing, she peered into the tomb and saw two angels sitting there. In her grief, it didn't register who or what they were. Her response to the angels' inquiry indicates that she hadn't grasped what had happened. She was sad because she thought Jesus' body had been taken away. She had no comprehension that Jesus had risen.

## Mary Doesn't Recognize the Risen Jesus

Why did Mary not recognize the Lord she was looking for when she turned around and saw him? Several factors probably contributed to her lack of recognition: She knew he was dead and was not expecting him to be alive, she may not have raised her eyes to really look at him because she didn't want to show her tears, she may not have seen clearly through her tears anyway, and Jesus was now in his glorified body—he may have looked very different from when she had last seen him.

It is interesting that Jesus repeated the same question the angels had asked Mary. The angels and Jesus were both trying to help Mary understand what had actually happened. But she just couldn't comprehend it until Jesus called her name. She knew the voice of Jesus and recognized him.

## The Jesus Connection

The same voice Mary heard calls to us, inviting, assuring, welcoming us into a full life with him—a timeless relationship with Jesus.

It was the resurrection of Jesus that changed everything and gave the disciples the courage they needed to face death unafraid. How is the resurrection of Christ changing the way you live? What questions do you have for God? Ask him right now. You can write your prayer here.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.




## INFANT

### 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "Mary, Mary" (track 8) to the tune of "Baa, Baa, Black Sheep" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants.

 **Mary, Mary, where is he?**  
Do you know where Jesus could be?  
We looked by the rock,  
And we looked by the tree.  
We looked everywhere that we could see.  
Mary, Mary, where is he?  
Do you know where Jesus could be?

**Mary, Mary, where is he?**  
Do you know where Jesus could be?  
Yes, friends, yes, friends, I did see!  
Jesus came and talked to me.  
Our friend Jesus lives today.  
Let's all clap and shout hooray!

Sing "Jesus Is Alive" (not on CD) to the tune of "Yankee Doodle" to the babies anytime during the lesson. As you sing, march babies' feet and legs on the third line and clap their hands on the fourth line.

 **Jesus, Jesus is alive**  
On this Easter day.

**We will march, we will shout,**  
"He lives for us today!"

### 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

## Where's Jesus?

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Form the Mary finger puppet around your finger, and tape the ends in place. Hold a baby on your lap so he or she can see the book.

Say: **One day Mary** (show the finger puppet) **couldn't find Jesus. She looked in a garden to find him. Let's try to find Jesus with Mary.** Lift the first sheet of bathroom tissue.

Ask:

**Is Jesus here? What is this?** Identify the objects on the page. Repeat the same process with each page until you find Jesus.



### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player  
**Teacher Pack**  
CD: "Mary, Mary"  
(track 8)

### Where's Jesus? Supplies

stapler  
scissors  
bathroom tissue  
tape  
**Teacher Pack**  
Mary finger puppet  
"Scenes From the  
Garden" teaching  
picture

### Where's Jesus? Easy Prep

Cut out the Mary finger puppet. Cut out all of the squares from the teaching picture, and stack them faceup, putting a square of tissue over each picture. Place the cover page on top of the stack and the picture of Jesus at the bottom. Staple the book together, and cover the staples with a piece of tape.





### He's Alive! Supplies

construction paper  
tape  
scissors

**Teacher Pack**  
Jesus figure

### He's Alive! Easy Prep

Accordion fold two 1½x4-inch strips of construction paper. Tape the paper strips to the back of the Jesus figure, one at the top and one at the bottom. Fold a sheet of construction paper in half horizontally, and tape the other end of the accordion strips to the inside of the sheet, one on each side of the fold. Close the “book,” carefully folding the Jesus figure in half, making a pop-up book.

### Shell-ebrate! Supplies

Easter basket  
several plastic Easter eggs

**Teacher Pack**  
Jesus figure

When you get to the page with the picture of Jesus, say: **Hooray, Mary found Jesus!**  
► **JESUS IS ALIVE!**

## 3

## WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### He's Alive!

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Hold a baby on your lap with the pop-up book you made earlier in hand. Read the following verse, and open the book on the last line.

**Where is Jesus, [baby's name]?**  
**Did he go away?**  
**I know he gave his life for you,**  
**And he rose on Easter day.** (*Pop the book open.*)

Say: **Look—here is Jesus.** ► **JESUS IS ALIVE.**

### Shell-ebrate!

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Set the Easter basket you prepared earlier on the floor in front of a baby.

Say: **Mary looked for Jesus in the garden. Can you find Jesus' picture?** Help the baby sort through the plastic eggs and find the Jesus figure. When the Jesus figure is found, say: ► **JESUS IS ALIVE. Hooray!**

Return the Jesus figure to the Teacher Pack for use in Lesson 10.





## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

### TODDLER

## 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Sing “Mary, Mary” (track 8) to the tune of “Baa, Baa, Black Sheep” anytime during the lesson. Hide a picture of Jesus, and let the toddlers look for it as you play the song. Clap and shout “Hooray!” when the Jesus picture is found.



**Mary, Mary, where is he?**  
**Do you know where Jesus could be?**  
**We looked by the rock,**  
**And we looked by the tree.**  
**We looked everywhere that we could see.**  
**Mary, Mary, where is he?**  
**Do you know where Jesus could be?**

**Mary, Mary, where is he?**  
**Do you know where Jesus could be?**  
**Yes, friends, yes, friends, I did see!**  
**Jesus came and talked to me.**  
**Our friend Jesus lives today.**  
**Let’s all clap and shout hooray!**

Sing “Jesus Is Alive” (not on CD) to the tune of “Yankee Doodle” anytime during the lesson.



**Jesus, Jesus is alive**  
**On this Easter day.**  
**We will march, we will shout,**  
**“He lives for us today!”**



### Shell-ebrate! Easy Prep

Fill an Easter basket or a large bowl with several colorful plastic Easter eggs. Gently remove the Jesus figure from the pop-up book you made for the “He’s Alive!” activity, and hide it in the basket under the eggs.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 5 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player  
picture of Jesus  
**Teacher Pack**  
CD: “Mary, Mary”  
(track 8)



### Egg-citing News! Supplies

Bible  
glitter glue  
several plastic Easter  
eggs  
scissors  
tape  
**Teacher Pack**  
Mary and angel finger  
puppets

### Egg-citing News! Easy Prep

Cut out the Mary and  
angel finger puppets.  
Decorate the angel  
finger puppet with  
glitter glue. When the  
glue is dry (allow a few  
hours), fold the angel  
finger puppet in half,  
and place it in a plastic  
Easter egg.

### Glory Shakers Supplies

1 plastic Easter egg per  
child  
uncooked rice  
glue  
tape  
funnel  
newspaper  
CD player  
**Teacher Pack:**  
CD: "His Great Love"  
(Romans 5:8) (track 7)

## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

### Egg-citing News!

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Form the Mary finger puppet around your finger, and tape the ends in place. Place the egg (with the hidden angel puppet) with several others on the floor near you. Then open your Bible to John 20, and gather a few toddlers.

Say: **Last week we learned that Jesus died for us. But on Easter, we celebrate that ► JESUS IS ALIVE! Hooray!** Clap and shout.

**Jesus' friend Mary** (show the finger puppet) **thought that she would never see Jesus again. She was very sad. But then she found two angels who asked her why she was sad. Let's see if we can find an angel.** Help the toddlers open the plastic eggs until you find the angel finger puppet. **Look at the sparkling angel! The angels said, "Don't look here! Jesus is alive!" How does it make you feel to know that ► JESUS IS ALIVE?** Encourage the children's celebration.

## 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### Glory Shakers

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **When Mary knew Jesus was alive, she was very happy. Let's make some happy noisemakers to celebrate that ► JESUS IS ALIVE.**

Help toddlers, one at a time, pour a small handful of uncooked rice through a funnel and into one half of an empty plastic Easter egg. Do this over newspaper for easy cleanup. Before snapping the egg together, apply a line of glue around the rim. Tape around the edge so children can use the "maracas" immediately. Then demonstrate how to make music by shaking the egg. Play the song "His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) (track 7) on the CD, and have children dance and shake their maracas to the rhythm.

Say: **We give glory to God on Easter because ► JESUS IS ALIVE.**



## I've Found Him!

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Give one child at a time a copy of the "Mary at the Tomb" handout. Show him or her the Mary finger puppet.

Ask:

**How did Mary feel when she couldn't find Jesus?** Allow the toddler to respond.

Say: **Mary was very sad and worried. But then she found Jesus, and they talked together. Can you look for Jesus in this box?** When the child finds a picture of Jesus, say: ► **JESUS IS ALIVE! Let's glue his picture next to Mary.** Help the child put glue on the back of the picture of Jesus and place it next to Mary on the handout.

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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### I've Found Him! Supplies

bathroom tissue  
box  
glue sticks  
My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
"Mary at the Tomb" page  
(at the end of the lesson)

scissors

#### Teacher Pack

"Scenes From the  
Garden" teaching  
picture  
Mary finger puppet

### I've Found Him! Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 5  
pages from each My Bible  
Snuggles student book.  
Make a copy of Jesus  
from the "Scenes From the  
Garden" teaching picture  
for each child (and a few  
extras for your Easter  
Sunday visitors). Cut out  
the figures. Unroll a roll of  
bathroom tissue into a box.  
Hide the pictures of Jesus  
among the mounds of  
tissue. Set aside the Mary  
finger puppet.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
"Growing With Jesus"  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)





## Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

### Teacher Pack

CD: "Mary, Mary"  
(track 8)

## Empty Tomb Supplies

Bible

CD player

tape

piece of cloth or paper

### Teacher Pack

CD: "Morning in the  
Garden, Parts 1, 2, and  
3" (tracks 9-11)

"Mary Sees Jesus"  
poster (from the Big  
Bible Poster Pack)

## Empty Tomb Easy Prep

Tape a piece of cloth or  
paper over the picture  
of Jesus on the "Mary  
Sees Jesus" poster,  
taping across the top  
of the cloth or paper  
so children will be able  
to lift it to see Jesus  
underneath. Hang the  
poster where kids will  
be able to see it.

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### 1

## GETTING STARTED

# Sing and Celebrate

## What You'll Do

Sing "Mary, Mary" (track 8) to the tune of "Baa, Baa, Black Sheep" anytime during the lesson. Choose one child to be Jesus and to hide somewhere in the room. Choose another child to be Mary and to go look for the first child as you play the song. Encourage all the children to cheer when Jesus is found at the end of the song.



**Mary, Mary, where is he?**  
**Do you know where Jesus could be?**  
**We looked by the rock,**  
**And we looked by the tree.**  
**We looked everywhere that we could see.**  
**Mary, Mary, where is he?**  
**Do you know where Jesus could be?**

**Mary, Mary, where is he?**  
**Do you know where Jesus could be?**  
**Yes, friends, yes, friends, I did see!**  
**Jesus came and talked to me.**  
**Our friend Jesus lives today.**  
**Let's all clap and shout hooray!**

Sing "Jesus Is Alive" (not on CD) to the tune of "Yankee Doodle" anytime during the lesson.



**Jesus, Jesus is alive**  
**On this Easter day.**  
**We will march, we will shout,**  
**"He lives for us today!"**

### 2

## BIBLE EXPLORATION

# Empty Tomb

## What You'll Do

Gather the twos, and show the children John 20 in your Bible.

Ask:

**Who has gone for a walk in a garden? What are some of the sounds you heard?** Give twos time to respond.

Say: **You may have heard some birds like this.** Play "Morning in the Garden, Part 1" (track 9).



Say: **After Jesus died, his friends put his body in a tomb in a garden. Mary went to the garden to care for Jesus' body. Let's pretend to take a walk through the garden with Mary. We'll hold hands and walk in a circle.** As soon as the children have started walking, turn on the CD player to "Morning in the Garden, Part 2" (track 10).

Say: **Jesus' body wasn't in the tomb! Mary walked around the garden looking for him. She felt sad. She heard the birds singing, but something was happening that she couldn't hear. Let's find out what happened.**

Have children hold hands and stand still as you play "Morning in the Garden, Part 3" (track 11). At the end, you will hear a voice call "Mary."

Ask:

**Who said that?** Let children respond.

Lead kids to the "Mary Sees Jesus" poster. Say: **Let's see who was calling Mary in the garden.** Let kids take turns lifting the piece of cloth on the poster to look at Jesus' picture underneath.

Say: **Mary was so happy! She wanted everyone to know that ► JESUS IS ALIVE. We want to tell everyone, too. Let's step to the center of our circle, holding hands, and raise our arms together as we shout "Jesus is alive!"** Step in and out, repeating "Jesus is alive!" **We can tell our mommies, "Jesus is alive!"** Step back. **We can tell our daddies, "Jesus is alive!"**

Repeat this process several times, naming different people who are important to twos.

### 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Easter Parade

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Hold up the streamers you made earlier.

Say: **Let's have an Easter parade. People have parades with noise and music on special days. Easter is a special day because Jesus is alive.**

Play "His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) (track 7) on the CD. Show the children how to wave their streamers in the air as they march around the room. When the music stops, lead them in cheering ► **"JESUS IS ALIVE!"**



### Easter Parade Supplies

crepe paper streamer  
for each child  
scissors  
CD player

#### Teacher Pack

CD: "His Great Love"  
(Romans 5:8) (track 7)

### Easter Parade Easy Prep

For each child, cut a  
2-foot piece of colored  
crepe paper streamer.





### Empty-Tomb Necklaces Supplies

electric drill  
one 36-inch length  
of yarn and 1 plastic  
Easter egg per child  
sharpened pencil

### Empty-Tomb Necklaces Easy Prep

Use a small electric drill to create holes in each end of plastic Easter eggs.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 5 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

## Empty-Tomb Necklaces

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Set out the pairs of egg halves you drilled earlier on a table, open end down. Work with one child at a time to poke each end of the length of yarn into the holes, using a sharpened pencil as necessary to help feed the yarn through the holes. Tie a knot at the ends of the yarn to prevent it from coming out of the holes. Let the child put the egg together (on the yarn), and hang the necklace around his or her neck.

Say: **When Mary went to the tomb, there was nothing inside. Open your "empty-tomb necklace" and tell me what's inside.** Encourage or help the child to open the egg and tell you what's inside. **There's nothing in the tomb because ► JESUS IS ALIVE!**

Repeat this process several times with the child.

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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# Growing With Jesus



**Y**our child learned Jesus is alive (from John 20:1-18). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

## INFANT

### Shell-ebrate!

Fill an Easter basket or a large bowl with several colorful plastic Easter eggs. Draw a simple picture of Jesus on a piece of paper, and hide the paper under the eggs. Set the basket on the floor in front of your baby.

Say: **Mary looked for Jesus in the garden. Can you find Jesus' picture?** Help the baby sort through the plastic eggs and find the Jesus picture. When the Jesus picture is found, say: **Jesus is alive. Hooray!**

## TODDLER

### Glory Shakers

Make a happy noisemaker to celebrate with your toddler that Jesus is alive.

Using a funnel, help your child fill half of a plastic Easter egg with uncooked rice (or several jelly beans, if you prefer). Before snapping the egg together, apply a line of glue around the rim. Tape around the edge so your child can use the "maraca" immediately. Demonstrate how to make music by shaking the egg. Sing a song, and have your toddler dance and shake his or her maraca to the rhythm.

Say: **We give glory to God on Easter because Jesus is alive.**

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### Easter Parade

Cut a 2-foot piece of colored crepe paper streamer.

Say: **Let's have an Easter parade. People have parades with noise and music on special days. Easter is a special day because Jesus is alive.**

Play some cheery music as you show your child how to wave his or her streamer in the air as he or she marches around the room. When the music stops, lead your child in cheering "Jesus is alive!"



## Joyful Phrases

Your child may have picked up some new language while learning about the celebration of the Resurrection. Words like *hosanna* and phrases like "Jesus is alive" can be reviewed throughout the year as you listen to praise music or finish a prayer time. These words, and the context in which your child learned them, foreshadow the lifelong joy we can experience as followers of our resurrected Lord.



### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

Using a blanket, play Peekaboo. Tell your child that Jesus appeared to Mary and told her that he is alive.

Decorate Easter eggs. Explain that the empty shells baby chicks leave behind remind us of the empty tomb Jesus left behind.

**OK  
TO COPY**

## Mary at the Tomb



**OK  
TO COPY**

Illustrated by Nancy Munger.






# Apostles Defend Their Faith

Acts 5:12-42

Nesting things of graduated sizes is a favorite activity of very young children. It helps them begin to form concepts of relationship that will eventually grow into sophisticated spatial and mathematical skills. Today's lesson introduces the concept of spiritual multiplication at a rudimentary level. Children are wonderful messengers of God's love. Challenge them to share freely as they grow.

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Tell About Jesus</b> Learn how Jesus' love can multiply.	4 nesting cups, scissors, tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> "Faces" teaching picture 	Cut out the faces from the teaching picture, and tape each one to the bottom of the corresponding-size cup so that the cups can stack one over the other, upside down.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>He's Jesus, He's Jesus</b> Hear a song about Jesus while bouncing on a ball.	inflatable beach ball	Inflate a beach ball about two-thirds full.
	<b>Can You Tell the News?</b> Clap to a verse and tell of Jesus' love.		
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 6 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.



## ► Bible Point

Tell others about Jesus.

## Key Verse


"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective" (James 5:16).

## Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will begin to learn that God wants us to tell others about Jesus.



## TODDLER


LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>We Must Tell</b> Watch the good news of Jesus' love spread.	Bible, 4 nesting cups, scissors, tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> "Faces" teaching picture 	Cut out the faces from the teaching picture, and tape each one to the bottom of the corresponding-size cup so that the cups can stack one over the other, upside down.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>More and More</b> Use blocks to learn about building the kingdom of God.	blocks	
	<b>Tell Others About Jesus</b> Play a copycat game.		
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 6 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.





**2-YEAR-OLD**

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Go and Tell</b> Learn how telling others about Jesus makes new disciples.	Bible, 4 nesting cups, scissors, tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> “Faces” teaching picture 	Cut out the faces from the teaching picture, and tape each one to the bottom of the corresponding-size cup so that the cups can stack one over the other, upside down.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Tell the Good News</b> Create picture-sentences to spread the “happy news.”	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Happy News!” page (at the end of the lesson), glue, scissors, newspaper, washable red paint, shallow pan, sponge	Remove the Lesson 6 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Cut newspaper into 2-inch squares and a sponge into a 2-inch heart shape.
	<b>Say It, Say It</b> Do an action rhyme telling about Jesus.		
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



# Apostles Defend Their Faith

## Acts 5:12-42

BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

## The Jailed Apostles, Miraculously Freed, Return to the Temple

As described in Acts 4, Peter and John had been brought before the Sanhedrin for questioning and told to stop teaching in the name of Jesus. Frustrated but finding no reason to punish them, the Sanhedrin had to let them go. Now, after performing more miraculous signs and arousing more excitement among the people, all of the apostles were brought in and locked up overnight. The Sanhedrin likely intended to punish them the next day. However, the next morning, the doors and gates to the cell were still securely locked, but the prisoners were gone. Rather than accept the supernatural release of the apostles, the authorities apparently concluded that someone in the Temple police was a sympathizer and had freed the prisoners.

When the apostles were approached in the Temple court again, no force was used to bring them back to the meeting of the Sanhedrin. Had the apostles wanted to resist, the support of the crowd would have made it difficult for the religious leaders to bring them in. But the apostles didn't resist. Notice that the high priest didn't even want to utter the name of Jesus. Perhaps the high priest was afraid that the apostles would make him and the Sanhedrin look guilty for the death of Jesus. His guilt was haunting him, and he was becoming paranoid about the disciples' motives.

## Gamaliel Advises the Sanhedrin to Let the Apostles Go

Peter, responding for all the apostles, was very clear. Members of the Sanhedrin couldn't disagree with the principle; they just disagreed over what it meant to obey God. Mistaken as they were, they thought they were obeying God.

Gamaliel's response to the Sanhedrin was wise. After reminding the Sanhedrin of two people who had commanded followings and later faded away, he

advised the Sanhedrin to leave the apostles alone. He said that if what the apostles were doing was simply self-manufactured it would go nowhere, but if it was of God, even the Sanhedrin wouldn't be able to stop it.

## The Jesus Connection

The Holy Spirit is sometimes described as a “deposit” assuring that God will make good on his promises of what is yet to come. The Holy Spirit guides, convicts, and inspires us as we grow in our relationship with Jesus.

God has given his own Spirit to live in you, making you alive, animating your soul, giving you his very essence. Pray that God will help you feel fully alive. You can write your prayer here.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



## INFANT

**1** GETTING  
STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Sing "God Wants Us to Tell" (track 12) to the tune of "The Ants Go Marching" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants. As you sing, seat a baby on your knees and gently bounce him or her in time to the music.



God wants us to tell our friends

Who Jesus is.

God wants us to tell our friends

Who Jesus is.

Jesus is God's precious Son.

He showed God's love for everyone.

You can tell your friends that

Jesus is the Son of God.

*(Repeat.)*

Sing "Tell, Tell, Tell a Friend" (not on CD) to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants. "Row" baby up and down as you sing.



Tell, tell, tell a friend,

"Jesus came for you.

Oh, my friend, oh, my friend,

Jesus came for you!"

**2** BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## Tell About Jesus

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Hold a baby on your lap. Place the nested cups on the floor in front of you, and point them out to the baby.

Say: **Here's a friend who loves Jesus.** Remove the top cup from the stack to reveal the next cup. **The friend told another friend about Jesus.** Remove the cup from the stack

**Sing and Celebrate  
Supplies**

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "God Wants Us to  
Tell" (track 12)

**Tell About Jesus  
Supplies**

4 nesting cups

scissors

tape

**Teacher Pack**

"Faces" teaching  
picture

**Tell About Jesus  
Easy Prep**

Cut out the faces from the teaching picture, and tape each one to the bottom of the corresponding-size cup so that the cups can stack one over the other, upside down.



### He's Jesus, He's Jesus Supplies

inflatable beach ball

### He's Jesus, He's Jesus Easy Prep

Inflate a beach ball  
about two-thirds full.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
"Growing With Jesus"  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 6  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.

to reveal the next cup. **Then that person told another friend about Jesus.** Remove the cup from the stack to reveal the last cup. The cups should be lined up in a row on the floor in front of you. **Soon many people knew about Jesus. God wants us to be like these friends and ► TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS.**

## 3

## WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### He's Jesus, He's Jesus

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

As you sing the following song to the tune of "It's Raining, It's Pouring" (not on CD), seat the baby on top of the inflated beach ball, and gently bounce him or her.



**He's Jesus, he's Jesus.**

**The Son of God is Jesus.**

**He came to earth and showed God's love.**

**Tell everyone about him.**

### Can You Tell the News?

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Hold a baby on your lap facing you as you say the following verse. Help the baby to clap out the syllables of the words.

**Baby, baby, can you tell the news?**

**Oh, yes, oh, yes, tell the news.**

**Jesus, Savior, sent from God,**

**Came to give us all his love.**

**Baby, baby, can you tell the news?**

**Oh, yes, oh, yes, tell the news.**

### Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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**TODDLER****1****GETTING  
STARTED**

## Sing and Celebrate

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Sing "God Wants Us to Tell" (track 12) to the tune of "The Ants Go Marching" anytime during the lesson. Let children march around the room in time to the music.



**God wants us to tell our friends**

**Who Jesus is.**

**God wants us to tell our friends**

**Who Jesus is.**

**Jesus is God's precious Son.**

**He showed God's love for everyone.**

**You can tell your friends that**

**Jesus is the Son of God.**

*(Repeat.)*

Sing "Tell, Tell, Tell a Friend" (not on CD) to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" anytime during the lesson. Hold hands with a toddler as you sing, and pull the toddler close to you for a hug as you sing the third line.



**Tell, tell, tell a friend,**

**"Jesus came for you.**

**Oh, my friend, oh, my friend,**

**Jesus came for you!"**

**2****BIBLE  
EXPLORATION**

## We Must Tell

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Show one or two toddlers your Bible, opened to Acts 5. Put the Bible next to you along with the nesting cups.

Say: **The Bible tells us that Jesus' friends went everywhere telling people about Jesus.** Hold up the nesting cups. **When Jesus' friends would meet someone, they would tell that person about Jesus and say, "Jesus loves you!" Let's say that**

**Sing and Celebrate  
Supplies**

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "God Wants Us to  
Tell" (track 12)

**We Must Tell  
Supplies**

Bible

4 nesting cups

scissors

tape

**Teacher Pack**

"Faces" teaching  
picture

**We Must Tell  
Easy Prep**

Cut out the faces from the teaching picture, and tape each one to the bottom of the corresponding-size cup so that the cups can stack one over the other, upside down.



**together: Jesus loves you!** Let a toddler remove the top cup from the stack to reveal the next cup. **When Jesus' friends would meet another person, they would say, "Jesus loves you!" Let's say that: Jesus loves you!** Let another toddler remove the cup from the stack to reveal the next cup. **What would the friends say to this person? "Jesus loves you!"** Remove the cup from the stack to reveal the last cup. **Let's tell this person about Jesus, too: Jesus loves you!** The four cups should now be lined up along the floor. **Look! Lots of people know about Jesus now! God wants us to spread his love to everyone. We can tell people about Jesus' love, too.**

Hold hands with the toddlers, and ask them to bow their heads.

Pray: **Lord, help us to share your love and ► TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS. In Jesus' name, amen.**

### 3

## WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### More and More

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Help a toddler stack wooden or plastic blocks one on top of the other as high as he or she can before the blocks fall.

Say: **Each time we added a block, our tower got taller. Every time we tell someone about Jesus, the kingdom of God gets bigger and bigger. God wants us to ► TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS.**

### Tell Others About Jesus

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Enjoy this copycat action rhyme with your toddlers. Help them copy your actions even if they can't say the words.

**Tell others** *(have children repeat "Tell others" and cup hands to mouths)*

**About Jesus.** *(Have children repeat "About Jesus" and clap hands.)*

**Stand up tall.** *(Have children repeat "Stand up tall," reach hands over heads, and stand on tiptoe.)*

**Shout to them all.** *(Have children shout the words "Shout to them all.")*

**Jesus loves you.** *(Have children repeat "Jesus loves you" and point to others.)*

Say: **God wants us to ► TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS and his love.**

More and More  
Supplies

blocks





## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

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### 2-YEAR-OLD

## 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Sing “God Wants Us to Tell” (track 12) to the tune of “The Ants Go Marching” anytime during the lesson. Play the song on the CD, and encourage your twos to cup their hands to their mouths every time they sing the word “tell.”



**God wants us to tell our friends**

**Who Jesus is.**

**God wants us to tell our friends**

**Who Jesus is.**

**Jesus is God’s precious Son.**

**He showed God’s love for everyone.**

**You can tell your friends that**

**Jesus is the Son of God.**

*(Repeat.)*

Sing “Tell, Tell, Tell a Friend” (not on CD) to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat” anytime during the lesson. When singing, form pairs, and teach them the following motions:



**Tell, tell, tell a friend, (cup hands to mouth)**

**“Jesus came for you. (Point to friend.)**

**Oh, my friend, oh, my friend, (shake hands with friend)**

**Jesus came for you!” (Point to friend.)**



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

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My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

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Remove the Lesson 6 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

---

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: “God Wants Us to Tell” (track 12)





## Go and Tell Supplies

Bible  
4 nesting cups  
scissors  
tape  
**Teacher Pack**  
“Faces” teaching  
picture

## Go and Tell Easy Prep

Cut out the faces from the teaching picture, and tape each one to the bottom of the corresponding-size cup so that the cups can stack one over the other, upside down.

## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

# Go and Tell

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Gather the 2-year-olds together. Open your Bible to Acts 5.

Say: **Point to a friend in this group. Isn't it fun to have friends? Jesus had some special friends. They were called the disciples. The Bible tells us that the disciples went everywhere telling people about Jesus.** Place the nesting cups on the floor in front of you.

**When the disciples would meet someone, they would tell that person about Jesus and say, “Jesus loves you!” Let's say that together to this person.** Point to the top nesting cup. **Jesus loves you! Now that person can be a disciple and share God's love, too.** Remove the top cup from the stack to reveal the next cup. **What will we tell this person? Jesus loves you! Now we have two more people to help us tell about Jesus!** Remove the cup from the stack to reveal the next cup. **What would the disciples say to this person? Jesus loves you!** As you point to each cup, count aloud with the children. **One, two, three. Now we have three more people to help us tell others about Jesus.** Remove the cup from the stack to reveal the last cup. **Let's tell this person about Jesus, too. Jesus loves you!** The four cups should now be lined up along the floor.

**Look how many people now know about Jesus! God wants us to spread his love to everyone. He wants us to be his disciples and ► TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS and his love.**

Line up the twos.

Say: **Let's be disciples and tell our friends about Jesus.** Instruct the first child in line to turn to the child behind him or her and say, “Jesus loves you.” That child will then turn to the next child and say, “Jesus loves you.” The children should pass the message until everyone in the line has had a turn. Be sure to have the last child in line tell the first child.

Say: **You did a great job telling your friends about Jesus. God wants us to tell everyone about Jesus. Let's join hands and pray. God, help us be good disciples and tell other people about your Son, Jesus. In Jesus' name, amen.**



## 3

WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE

## Tell the Good News

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Working with one 2-year-old at a time, help him or her dot glue on the newspaper square and place it on the “Happy News!” handout beside the happy face. Then let the child dip the heart-shaped sponge in paint and press it onto the handout beside the picture of Jesus.

Say: **Let’s read our picture-sentence together: “Happy news! Jesus loves!” Who does Jesus love?** Let the child respond. **God wants us to tell the good news about Jesus to everyone.**

## Say It, Say It

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Enjoy this action rhyme with your 2-year-olds.

**Wherever you go, whatever you do,** *(march in place)*  
**Say to others, “Jesus loves you.”** *(Cross hands over chest.)*  
**You can say it very softly:** *(crouch down)*  
**“Jesus loves you.”** *(Whisper.)*  
**Or shout it out loud:** *(raise arms over head and stand up tall)*  
**“Jesus loves you!”** *(Shout.)*  
**Wherever you go, whatever you do,** *(march in place)*  
**Say to others, “Jesus loves you.”** *(Cross hands over chest.)*

Say: **We can ► TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS and his love.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

Tell the Good News  
Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Happy News!” page (at  
the end of the lesson)  
glue  
scissors  
newspaper  
washable red paint  
shallow pan  
sponge

Tell the Good News  
Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 6  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book. Cut newspaper  
into 2-inch squares and  
a sponge into a 2-inch  
heart shape.

Weaving Faith  
at Home  
Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)





## Growing With Jesus



### Sharing Jesus

It's fun to help your child create little projects to share with friends or neighbors. You might bake cookies or muffins together to welcome a new neighbor or take soup to a friend who is ill. To help your child associate these kind acts with sharing Jesus, provide the opportunity to place a sticker picture of Jesus on the container of food.

Your child learned to tell others about Jesus (from Acts 5:12-42). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

#### INFANT

##### Can You Tell the News?

Hold your baby on your lap facing you as you say the following verse. Help your baby clap out the syllables of the words.

**Baby, baby, can you tell the news?**

**Oh, yes, oh, yes, tell the news.**

**Jesus, Savior, sent from God,  
Came to give us all his love.**

**Baby, baby, can you tell the news?**

**Oh, yes, oh, yes, tell the news.**

#### TODDLER

##### More and More

Help your toddler stack wooden or plastic blocks one on top of the other as high as he or she can before the blocks fall.

Say: **Each time we added a block, our tower got taller. Every time we tell someone about Jesus, the kingdom of God gets bigger and bigger. God wants us to tell others about Jesus.**

#### 2-YEAR-OLD

##### Say It, Say It

Enjoy this action rhyme with your 2-year-old.

**Wherever you go,  
whatever you do,**  
*(march in place)*

**Say to others, "Jesus loves you."** *(Cross hands over chest.)*

**You can say it very softly:** *(crouch down)*

**"Jesus loves you."**  
*(Whisper.)*

**Or shout it out loud:**  
*(raise arms over head and stand up tall)*

**"Jesus loves you!"**  
*(Shout.)*

**Wherever you go,  
whatever you do,**  
*(march in place)*

**Say to others, "Jesus loves you."** *(Cross hands over chest.)*

Say: **We can tell others about Jesus and his love.**

#### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

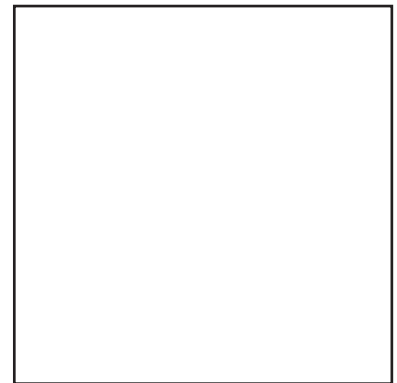
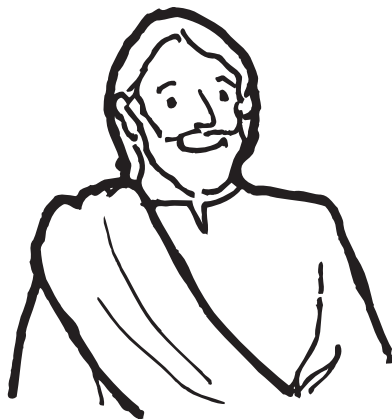
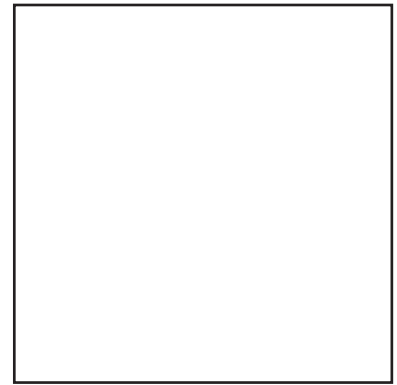
Use a play telephone to let your child pretend to call friends and tell them about Jesus. Then place a real call to a grandparent or friend. Remind your child to say, "Jesus loves you." Reinforce to your child that everyone can be told about Jesus.

Together make this fun snack as a reminder to tell others about Jesus. Slice an apple, and put two slices on a plate. (These will be lips.) Spread cream cheese on the slices, and then place cereal squares to represent teeth. Point to the apple mouth, and say, "God wants us to use our mouths to tell other people about Jesus."

**OK  
TO COPY**



# Happy News!



**OK**  
**TO COPY**  
Illustrated by Nancy Munger.






# Saul Meets Jesus Near Damascus

Acts 9:1-20

Change brings stimulation and challenge, but it can also be threatening for young children who thrive on predictability. What seems old and tired to you may still be a source of joy and learning to your children. Incorporate changes slowly into your program, being sure to provide many predictable “old favorites” that are familiar to children.

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Here Is a Man Named Saul</b> Hear a rhyme about Saul.	flashlight <b>Teacher Pack:</b> Saul figure (from the teaching picture set) 	Prop the Saul figure against a wall or flannel board. Have a flashlight on hand.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>A Bright Light</b> Observe the light from a flashlight.	flashlight	
	<b>Different on the Outside</b> See changes in their appearance.	hats, child-friendly hand-held mirror	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 7 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



## ► Bible Point

Jesus changes our lives.

## Key Verse


“The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective” (James 5:16).

## Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will begin to learn that when Jesus comes into our lives, we change.



## TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Jesus Appears to Saul</b> Hear the story of Saul and Jesus.	Bible, flashlight <b>Teacher Pack:</b> Saul figure (from teaching picture set) 	Prop the Saul figure against a wall or flannel board. Have a flashlight on hand.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Smiling Saul</b> Use a fruity smile to tell how Jesus changed Saul.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Smiling Saul" page (at the end of the lesson), apples, knife	Remove the Lesson 7 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Just before the activity, cut an apple slice for each child.
	<b>There Once Was a Man Named Saul</b> Do an action rhyme about the Bible story.		
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	


**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.







**2-YEAR-OLD**

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Sing or listen to praise songs.	Bible, CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Jesus Changes Saul</b> Hear the story of how Jesus changed Saul.	Bible, flashlight, tape, shiny stickers (such as foil stars) <b>Teacher Pack:</b> Saul figure (from teaching picture set), "Saul Meets Jesus" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack) 	Prop the Saul figure against a wall or flannel board. Have a flashlight and shiny stickers ready.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Saul Flashlight Tag</b> Play a game to rejoice in Saul's change.	flashlight	
	<b>Jesus Changes Our Lives</b> Sing a song about how Jesus changes us.		
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 7 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



# Saul Meets Jesus Near Damascus

## Acts 9:1-20

BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

## Saul Encounters Jesus on the Damascus Road

Saul was traveling to Damascus to arrest Christians when Jesus met him on the road. A light he later described as “brighter than the sun” (Acts 26:13) flashed out of heaven, and he dropped to the ground. When Jesus questioned Saul, Saul’s question in return was genuine. The term *lord* can refer simply to a person of superior standing. It seems that Saul really didn’t know who was addressing him. When Jesus told him who he was, the truth of all that had happened must have swept through Saul like a flood. All that Saul had believed about Jesus was wrong, and in his zeal for God, he had been persecuting those who believed what was true!

## Blinded Saul Is Told to Wait for Instructions

It's interesting that Jesus told Saul that he was to go into the city and wait for instructions and that Saul was blinded and remained that way as he waited in Damascus for three days. We can only speculate on what went through Saul's mind during that time, but he must have been going through all the Old Testament Scriptures stored in his memory, sorting out how Jesus could be the Messiah in spite of Saul's earlier belief. God gave him time to think!

## Ananias Helps Saul

Saul's meeting with Ananias introduces another aspect of the story. Imagine the faith it took for Ananias to seek out the man he probably knew was coming to town to arrest him and other Christians. How better could the Christians there and around Judea have found out about the change in Saul? God definitely knows what he is doing!

Why did God choose Saul? God could have used anyone. Perhaps he chose Saul to be a supreme example of how a life can be changed when God enters it. It is often suggested that Saul of Tarsus became Paul after this conversion. The truth is that “Saul” was his Jewish name but “Paul” was the Roman equivalent by which he became better known.

## The Jesus Connection

Maybe you haven't experienced that kind of "Road to Damascus" conversion, and that's okay. The road that brought you to a relationship with Jesus doesn't matter. What is important is whether or not you are making the most of your journey with him.

Think of one person you can share your Lord with.  
Pray that God will help you show that person the light.  
You can write your prayer here.

[illegible]



## INFANT

## 1

GETTING  
STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) (track 7) to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants.



**God loves us.**

**God sent his Son to die for us  
Because of his great love.  
(Repeat.)**

**His great love,  
God showed his great big love  
By sending Christ to die for us  
While we were still sinners.  
(Repeat.)**

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

**His great love, his great love, his great love.**

"His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) by Ben Glover. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Sing "Jesus Makes Us New" (not on CD) to the tune of "I've Been Working on the Railroad" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants. Sing with an infant on your lap to help baby make the movements noted in the parentheses.



**Jesus makes us new and changes us** (*hold both hands out in front of you and raise one at a time, alternating hands to the rhythm of the words*)

**Every single day.** (*Clap hands to the rhythm.*)

**Jesus makes us new and changes us** (*hold both hands out in front of you and raise one at a time, alternating hands to the rhythm of the words*)

**All along the way.** (*Clap hands to the rhythm.*)

**Every day's a new adventure** (*sway side to side*)

**When we follow him.** (*March in place.*)

**Every day's a new adventure** (*sway side to side*)

**When we follow him.** (*March in place.*)

**Jesus makes us new, Jesus makes us new,** (*pat knees*)

**Jesus makes our lives brand new!** (*Jump into the air on "brand new."*)



### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "His Great Love"  
(Romans 5:8) (track 7)





### Here Is a Man Named Saul Supplies

flashlight

#### Teacher Pack

Saul figure (from the teaching picture set)

### Here Is a Man Named Saul Easy Prep

Prop the Saul figure against a wall or flannel board. Have a flashlight on hand.

### A Bright Light Supplies

flashlight

### Different on the Outside Supplies

hats  
child-friendly hand-held mirror

Jesus makes us new, Jesus makes us new, (pat knees)  
Jesus makes our lives brand new! (Jump into the air on “brand new.”)

## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

### Here Is a Man Named Saul

#### What You'll Do

Sit on the floor next to an infant. Say the following rhyme, shining the flashlight on Saul when you say the third line.

**Here is a man named Saul.  
He's not a nice man at all.  
Jesus came into his life  
And changed him from bad to nice.**

## 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### A Bright Light

#### What You'll Do

Seat baby on the floor near you. Turn on a flashlight. Shine the light on the baby's hands, arms, legs, shoes, and so on. Shine the light on the floor near the baby and around the classroom. Encourage the baby to be aware of the light as you say the following.

Say: **Look at the light! Jesus came to Saul like a very bright light! Saul could see the bright light. He knew it was Jesus. Jesus changed Saul's life. ► JESUS CHANGES OUR LIVES, too.**

### Different on the Outside

#### What You'll Do

Help baby look into the mirror.

As you place a hat on the baby, say: **Change!** Do this with each hat. **Look at all the outside changes! I changed you on the outside. Jesus changes us on the inside.** Give the baby a hug.



## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

### TODDLER

## 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Sing “His Great Love” (Romans 5:8) (track 7) anytime during the lesson.



God loves us.

God sent his Son to die for us

Because of his great love.

*(Repeat.)*

His great love,

God showed his great big love

By sending Christ to die for us

While we were still sinners.

*(Repeat.)*

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

**His great love, his great love, his great love.**

“His Great Love” (Romans 5:8) by Ben Glover. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Sing “Jesus Makes Us New” (not on CD) to the tune of “I’ve Been Working on the Railroad” anytime during the lesson. Sing to a toddler, clapping to the rhythm of the verse. Then for the chorus, do the movements in the parentheses. Encourage toddlers to imitate you as you pat your knees and jump while singing.



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 7  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: “His Great Love”

(Romans 5:8) (track 7)



**Jesus makes us new and changes us** (*hold both hands out in front of you and raise one at a time, alternating hands to the rhythm of the words*)

**Every single day.** (*Clap hands to the rhythm.*)

**Jesus makes us new and changes us** (*hold both hands out in front of you and raise one at a time, alternating hands to the rhythm of the words*)

**All along the way.** (*Clap hands to the rhythm.*)

**Every day's a new adventure** (*sway side to side*)

**When we follow him.** (*March in place.*)

**Every day's a new adventure** (*sway side to side*)

**When we follow him.** (*March in place.*)

**Jesus makes us new, Jesus makes us new,** (*pat knees*)

**Jesus makes our lives brand new!** (*Jump into the air on "brand new."*)

**Jesus makes us new, Jesus makes us new,** (*pat knees*)

**Jesus makes our lives brand new!** (*Jump into the air on "brand new."*)

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## Jesus Appears to Saul

### Jesus Appears to Saul Supplies

Bible  
flashlight  
**Teacher Pack**  
Saul figure (from  
teaching picture set)

### Jesus Appears to Saul Easy Prep

Prop the Saul figure  
against a wall or flannel  
board. Have a flashlight  
on hand.

### What You'll Do

Gather a few toddlers on the floor next to the picture, and open your Bible to Acts 9.

Say: **The Bible tells us that there was once a man named Saul who was not a nice person. He was mean to people who believed in Jesus.** Hold your hands up near your face like bear claws and bare your teeth to look mean each time you say "Saul." **Saul did not believe Jesus was God's Son, and Saul didn't want others to believe in Jesus, either.**

**Saul and some men were traveling on a road. All of a sudden, a very bright light shone around the men.** Turn on the flashlight, hand it to a toddler, and let him or her shine it on the picture of Saul. Let each child have a turn.

**The light was so bright!** Hold your hands up beside your face, fingers splayed to indicate the bright light. **Saul couldn't see. Put your hands over your eyes. Oh! It's dark when you can't see.** Put your hands over your eyes, and encourage the toddlers to mimic you. Continue making the "mean" face as you say "Saul."

**Jesus talked to Saul. Jesus changed Saul's life. No more mean Saul. Now he's kind Saul.** Smile at the children. ► **JESUS CHANGES OUR LIVES!**

Use each child's name to personalize the following. Say: **You'll be kind,** [child's name]. Smile at the child. ► **JESUS CHANGES OUR LIVES.**



## 3

WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE

## Smiling Saul

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Work with one toddler at a time. Hold an apple slice in front of your mouth, right side up. Say: **Happy!** Turn the apple slice upside down. **Sad!** Repeat this several times, and then place the apple slice in front of the toddler's mouth.

Say: **Before Saul met Jesus, he was mean and sad.** Hold the apple slice in place on the "Smiling Saul" handout. **When Saul met Jesus, Jesus made him happy!** Reposition the apple. **Jesus changes people. He makes sad people happy and mean people nice.** Let the toddler hold the apple and position it as you say: **Show me sad. Poor Saul! Show me happy. Yay, Jesus! Show me mean. Sad Saul. Show me kind. Happy Saul! Yay, Jesus. Jesus ► JESUS CHANGES OUR LIVES.** Let the toddler eat the apple slice.

## There Once Was a Man Named Saul

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Teach the children this action rhyme. Do the motions in parentheses, and have the children copy your actions.

**There once was a man named Saul** (*put hands on hips*)  
**Who was not a nice man at all.** (*Point finger, and shake head back and forth.*)  
**When God sent a bright light,** (*hold hands in front of face*)  
**Saul lost his sight.** (*Cover eyes with hands.*)  
**But what a great day for Saul!** (*Raise hands above head in a cheer.*)  
**What a great day for Saul!** (*Raise hands above head in a cheer.*)  
**What a great day for Saul!** (*Raise hands above head in a cheer.*)  
**God changed that man,** (*stretch arms out at sides*)  
**Made Saul part of his plan.** (*Bring arms to front with a clap.*)  
**What a great day for Saul!** (*Raise hands above head in a cheer.*)

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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Smiling Saul  
Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Smiling Saul" page (at the end of the lesson)  
 apples  
 knife

! ALLERGY  
■ ALERTSmiling Saul  
Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 7 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Just before the activity, cut an apple slice for each child.

Weaving Faith  
at Home  
Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)





## Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

### Teacher Pack

CD: "His Great Love"  
(Romans 5:8) (track 7)

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do

Sing "His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) (track 7) anytime during the lesson.



**God loves us.**

**God sent his Son to die for us**

**Because of his great love.**

*(Repeat.)*

**His great love,**

**God showed his great big love**

**By sending Christ to die for us**

**While we were still sinners.**

*(Repeat.)*

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

**His great love, his great love, his great love.**

"His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) by Ben Glover. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Sing "Jesus Makes Us New" (not on CD) to the tune of "I've Been Working on the Railroad" anytime during the lesson. Do the motions in the parentheses. Encourage the children to follow your motions, especially on the chorus.



**Jesus makes us new and changes us** *(hold both hands out in front of you and raise one at a time, alternating hands to the rhythm of the words)*

**Every single day.** *(Clap hands to the rhythm.)*

**Jesus makes us new and changes us** *(hold both hands out in front of you and raise one at a time, alternating hands to the rhythm of the words)*

**All along the way.** *(Clap hands to the rhythm.)*

**Every day's a new adventure** *(sway side to side)*

**When we follow him.** *(March in place.)*

**Every day's a new adventure** *(sway side to side)*

**When we follow him.** *(March in place.)*

**Jesus makes us new, Jesus makes us new,** *(pat knees)*

**Jesus makes our lives brand new!** *(Jump into the air on "brand new.")*





Jesus makes us new, Jesus makes us new, (pat knees)  
Jesus makes our lives brand new! (Jump into the air on “brand new.”)

---

## 2

BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## Jesus Changes Saul

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Gather the 2-year-olds around the teaching picture. Open your Bible to Acts 9.

Say: **In the Bible we read about a man named Saul. Saul was a mean man and did not like people who believed in Jesus. Show me your meanest face.** Show children your mean face, too. **That's how Saul looked when he heard the name of Jesus.**

**One day Saul and some friends were walking along the road. All of a sudden, a very bright light flashed all around the men.** Choose one of the children to flip the classroom light switch on and off several times. **Show me what you think Saul did when he saw the light.** Give twos time to respond.

Spread out the “Saul Meets Jesus” poster on the floor.

Say: **Let's show how bright that light was by putting shiny stickers on this poster.**

Give each child a few shiny stickers (such as foil stars) to stick over the light shining on Saul in the poster. Then hang the poster on the wall where kids can see it.

Turn on the flashlight, and shine it on the “Saul” teaching picture.

Say: **The light was so bright that Saul couldn't see. Jesus asked, “Why are you hurting people who love me?” Jesus told Saul to go to the city and wait. Saul waited (cross your arms over your chest) and prayed (make praying hands) for three days.** Encourage the children to join you in the movements. **Then Jesus allowed Saul to see again. And Jesus changed Saul's mean face** (have the children show their meanest faces) **to a kind face** (have the children smile). **Jesus gave Saul a new life. Now mean Saul is known as Jesus' friend.**

Sing this prayer to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb” (not on CD).



Thank you, God, for changing lives,  
Changing lives, changing lives!  
Thank you, God, for changing lives  
Because you love us so! In Jesus' name, amen.



### Jesus Changes Saul Supplies

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Bible  
flashlight  
tape  
shiny stickers (such as foil stars)  
**Teacher Pack**  
Saul figure (from teaching picture set)  
“Saul Meets Jesus” poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack)

### Jesus Changes Saul Easy Prep

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Prop the Saul figure against a wall or flannel board. Have a flashlight and shiny stickers ready.





### Saul Flashlight Tag Supplies

flashlight

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 7  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.

## 3

## WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

# Saul Flashlight Tag

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have the twos sit in a circle on the floor. Have the flashlight on hand.

Say: **We're happy that ► JESUS CHANGES OUR LIVES. Let's clap three times to tell him we are happy.** Practice clapping three times with the children, counting aloud. **I'm going to shine the flashlight on someone. When you see that flashlight shine on you, clap three times to say you're happy that ► JESUS CHANGES OUR LIVES.** Play until everyone has had a turn. Use caution to not shine the flashlight into children's eyes.

# Jesus Changes Our Lives

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing this song to the tune of “Battle Hymn of the Republic” (not on CD). Form a circle, join hands, and walk around the circle as you sing. Ask the children to suggest other bad things that Jesus can change, and substitute those words for “mean and grouchy.”



**When we're mean and grouchy,  
Jesus changes our lives.  
When we're mean and grouchy,  
Jesus changes our lives.  
When we're mean and grouchy,  
Jesus changes our lives.  
If we ask him to take charge.**

**Jesus changes our lives,  
Jesus changes our lives,  
Jesus changes our lives,  
If we ask him to take charge.**

# Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).



# Growing With Jesus



Your child learned Jesus changes our lives (from Acts 9:1-20). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

## INFANT

### Different on the Outside

Gather a hand-held mirror and a variety of hats. Help your baby look into the mirror.

As you place a hat on your baby, say: **Change!** Do this with each hat. **Look at all the outside changes! I changed you on the outside. Jesus changes us on the inside.** Give your baby a hug.

## TODDLER

### Smiling Saul

Draw a simple face shape on paper, and then face your toddler, holding an apple slice in front of your mouth right side up.

Say: **Happy!** Turn it upside down. **Sad!** Repeat, and then place the apple slice in front of your toddler's mouth.

**Before Saul met Jesus, he was sad.** Hold the apple slice in place on the face shape. **When Saul met Jesus, Jesus made him happy!** Reposition the apple. **Jesus changes people. He makes sad people happy.** Let your toddler hold the apple and position it as you say: **Show me sad. Poor Saul! Show me happy. Yay, Jesus! Yay, Jesus. Jesus changes lives.** Let your toddler eat the apple slice.

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### Saul Flashlight Tag

Have your 2-year-old sit on the floor opposite you. Have the flashlight on hand.

Say: **We're happy that Jesus changes lives. Let's clap three times to tell him we are happy.** Practice clapping three times with your child, counting aloud. **I'm going to shine the flashlight around the room. When you see that flashlight shine on you, clap three times to say you're happy that Jesus changes lives.**



### A New Creation

Every day you notice changes in your child. This period of rapid development gives us a new take on Paul's words, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Let your child teach you about how to change your heart to become a "new creation." This tutoring is one of the greatest benefits of parenthood.



#### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

Look at a family photo album or your child's baby book. Show your child how he or she has changed since birth.

Play Flashlight Tag at dusk. The person who is "It" tags the other players by shining the flashlight on them. Tagged players freeze. Remind your child that Jesus appeared to Saul as a bright light. Saul stopped walking, dropped to his knees, and listened to Jesus' voice.

**OK  
TO COPY**

## Smiling Saul



**OK  
TO COPY**

Illustrated by Nancy Munger.




# Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead

Acts 9:36-43

Young children are natural mimics and will mirror your presentation of prayer. Prayers of thanksgiving can be integrated into conversation. Prayers for healing can be introduced as children experience normal scrapes and bumps. One of the greatest blessings of prayer at any age is the peace that comes from communing with God. Help children learn to draw away into peaceful prayer by providing quiet moments.

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Pray Tell?</b> Hear the story of Peter and Tabitha in a fun rhyme.	facial tissue, scissors, tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> Peter and Tabitha finger puppets (from the teaching picture set) 	Cut out the Peter and Tabitha finger puppets.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>"Touchy-Feely" Fabric</b> Touch different fabrics to learn more about Tabitha.	<b>Teacher Pack:</b> fabric squares	
	<b>Get Up, Tabitha!</b> Participate in an action rhyme to review the story.		
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



► **Bible Point**  
God hears our prayers.


**Key Verse**  
"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective" (James 5:16).

**Weaving Faith Into Life**  
Children will begin to learn that when we pray, God hears our prayers.





## TODDLER


LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Sing or listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>A Well-Woven Story</b> Play with finger puppets as they hear the story of how Peter prayed for Tabitha.	Bible, scissors, tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> Peter and Tabitha finger puppets (from the teaching picture set) 	Cut out the Peter and Tabitha finger puppets.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Pop Up, Tabitha!</b> Perform a finger play.	fine-tipped marker	
	<b>Gifts of Clothing</b> Dress up in different clothes to learn more about Tabitha.	dress-up clothes	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

**Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.**





**2-YEAR-OLD**

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Sing or listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Bedside Manner</b> Gather on a “bed” to hear the story of Peter and Tabitha.	Bible, blanket, pillow, scissors, tape, adhesive bandages <b>Teacher Pack:</b> Peter and Tabitha finger puppets (from the teaching picture set), fabric squares, “Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead” poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack) 	Cut out the Peter and Tabitha finger puppets, and hang the “Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead” poster on a wall in your meeting area. Spread a blanket on the floor, and place a pillow at the top. Have adhesive bandages ready.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Puttin’ on the Ritz</b> Make and wear a vest and add a “clothing label.”	1 paper grocery sack per child, scissors, markers, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Tabitha and Bed” page (at the end of the lesson), glue sticks	Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Make vests out of paper grocery sacks by cutting holes for the arms and head. Cut a slit up the middle of the front of the sack to the head hole, creating an opening. Cut the pictures of Tabitha and the bed from each handout.
	<b>Will You Get Up?</b> Play a game to remember what God did for Tabitha.		
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*









## INFANT

**1** GETTING  
STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Sing "God Hears Us" (track 13) to the tune of "Oh, When the Saints" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants. Help babies clap in time to the song.

♪ Oh, God hears us. (*Clap, clap.*)  
Oh, God hears us. (*Clap, clap.*)  
Oh, God hears us when we pray.  
God hears us each time we call him.  
Oh, God hears us when we pray.  
(*Repeat.*)

Sing "Prayer Psalm" (not on CD) to the tune of "Edelweiss" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants. Sing the song as a lullaby in your rest area.

♪ Hear my prayer, hear my prayer,  
Hear me, heavenly Father.  
Send your peace, as I pray,  
Hear me, heavenly Father.  
Help me live for you each day.  
You give me joy and gladness.  
Hear my prayer, hear my prayer,  
Hear me, heavenly Father.

**2** BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## Pray Tell?

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Form the puppets around your index fingers, and tape them. Sit with a baby.

Say: **The Bible tells us a kind woman named Tabitha was very sick. Her friends wrapped her, put her in a bed, and didn't think she'd ever be with them again.** Wrap

**Sing and Celebrate  
Supplies**

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "God Hears Us"  
(track 13)

**Pray Tell?  
Supplies**

facial tissue

scissors

tape

**Teacher Pack**

Peter and Tabitha finger  
puppets (from the  
teaching picture set)

**Pray Tell?  
Easy Prep**

Cut out the Peter and  
Tabitha finger puppets.



### “Touchy-Feely” Fabric Supplies

fabric squares

the Tabitha finger puppet in the facial tissue, and set it aside. Hold up the Peter finger puppet. **This is Jesus’ friend Peter.** Direct the following words to the puppet.

Say: **Tell me, Peter, tell, tell, tell,**

**Can you make Tabitha well?**

**“I cannot, but our God can.** *(Use a deep voice for Peter’s words.)*

**Listen to me. I’ve got a plan!**

**We’ll ask God. He’ll hear our prayers.**

**We’ll watch and wait and see from there.”**

**Peter spoke. Tabitha got well,** *(raise up the Tabitha finger puppet)*

**And those who were there had a story to tell.**

**Many believed from what happened that day,**

**And you and I know that God hears when we pray.**

## 3

### WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## “Touchy-Feely” Fabric

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Set a baby on your lap. Hold a fabric square in your open hand, and help the baby feel the fabric.

Say: **Tabitha made fabrics. This piece of fabric feels** [describe the texture of the fabric you are holding]. **Tabitha made clothes from fabric like this and gave them to people.** Repeat this process with each fabric square.

**When Tabitha was sick, God heard Peter’s prayers. ► GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS, too.**

## Get Up, Tabitha!

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Hold a baby on your lap, and do this action rhyme.

**Tabitha made clothes; she made them very quick.** *(Gently make a sewing motion with baby’s hands.)*

**Tabitha helped the poor, but then she got sick.** *(Lean baby back.)*

**Peter came and prayed; Tabitha arose.** *(Raise baby up.)*

**She got back to making everyone new clothes.** *(Gently make a sewing motion with baby’s hands.)*

Say: **Tabitha’s story reminds us that ► GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS.**



## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

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### TODDLER

## 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Sing “God Hears Us” (track 13) to the tune of “Oh, When the Saints” anytime during the lesson. During the song, have the toddlers clap as indicated in the parentheses.

♪ Oh, God hears us. (*Clap, clap.*)  
Oh, God hears us. (*Clap, clap.*)  
Oh, God hears us when we pray.  
God hears us each time we call him.  
Oh, God hears us when we pray.  
(*Repeat.*)

Sing “Prayer Psalm” (not on CD) to the tune of “Edelweiss” anytime during the lesson.

♪ Hear my prayer, hear my prayer,  
Hear me, heavenly Father.  
Send your peace, as I pray,  
Hear me, heavenly Father.  
Help me live for you each day.  
You give me joy and gladness.  
Hear my prayer, hear my prayer,  
Hear me, heavenly Father.



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

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My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

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Remove the Lesson 8  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

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CD player  
**Teacher Pack**  
CD: “God Hears Us”  
(track 13)





### A Well-Woven Story Supplies

Bible  
scissors  
tape

#### Teacher Pack

Peter and Tabitha finger  
puppets (from the  
teaching picture set)

### A Well-Woven Story Supplies

Cut out the Peter and  
Tabitha finger puppets.

### Pop Up, Tabitha! Supplies

fine-tipped marker

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## A Well-Woven Story

### What You'll Do

Form the puppets around your index fingers, and tape them. Gather a few toddlers, and show them your Bible opened to Acts 9.

Say: **Our Bible story today is about a woman named Tabitha.** Hold up the Tabitha finger puppet. **Tabitha loved God. She made clothes for poor people.** Have the children feel their clothing. **How does your shirt [or dress] feel? Is it soft?**

**Tabitha helped many people. One day she got very sick, and she died.** Let each child make the Tabitha finger puppet lie down. **All the people she helped were very sad.**

**When Peter heard that Tabitha had died** (hold up the Peter finger puppet), **he went to her house. Peter asked God to make Tabitha well. Show me what you think Tabitha did.** Let each child hold the Tabitha finger puppet and move it around. **Tabitha got up and moved! God heard Peter's prayer and made Tabitha well. ► GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS.**

## 3

### WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Pop Up, Tabitha!

### What You'll Do

Use a fine-tipped marker to draw a face on a toddler's index finger. Show the child how to close his or her fist to hide the face and then lift only the index finger. Do the following finger play together.

**Pop up, Tabitha! God heard Peter's prayer.**  
**Don't hide under the covers! Please come out of there.**  
**Dance a little dance!** (*Have child wiggle finger.*)  
**Turn around and around!** (*Have child rotate hand.*)  
**God has healed your body,**  
**So make a happy sound.** (*Encourage the child to cheer.*)

Say: **We are happy because ► GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS.**



## Gifts of Clothing

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Set out a variety of dress-up clothes.

Say: **Tabitha was a good friend. She showed God's love by making clothes for many people. Let's pretend we're getting clothes from Tabitha.** Choose a toddler to wear each clothing piece, and help the child put it on.

**I, Tabitha, give you this [article of clothing] to show that God loves you! God, please bless my friend [child's name]. I love to pray for you because I know ► GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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### 2-YEAR-OLD

**1**

### GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "God Hears Us" (track 13) to the tune of "Oh, When the Saints" anytime during the lesson. As you sing, substitute other actions for the claps indicated in the parentheses. You can stomp your feet, pat your knees, or touch your head. Let children create their own unique actions!

♪ Oh, God hears us. (*Clap, clap.*)  
Oh, God hears us. (*Clap, clap.*)  
Oh, God hears us when we pray.  
God hears us each time we call him.  
Oh, God hears us when we pray.  
(Repeat.)



### Gifts of Clothing Supplies

dress-up clothes

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player  
**Teacher Pack**  
CD: "God Hears Us" (track 13)



### Bedside Manner Supplies

Bible  
blanket  
pillow  
scissors  
tape  
adhesive bandages  
**Teacher Pack**  
Peter and Tabitha finger  
puppets (from the  
teaching picture set)  
fabric squares  
“Peter Raises Tabitha  
From the Dead”  
poster (from the Big  
Bible Poster Pack)

### Bedside Manner Easy Prep

Cut out the Peter and  
Tabitha finger puppets,  
and hang the “Peter  
Raises Tabitha From the  
Dead” poster on a wall  
in your meeting area.  
Spread a blanket on  
the floor, and place a  
pillow at the top. Have  
adhesive bandages  
ready.

Sing “Prayer Psalm” (not on CD) to the tune of “Edelweiss” anytime during the lesson.

🎵 **Hear my prayer, hear my prayer,  
Hear me, heavenly Father.  
Send your peace, as I pray,  
Hear me, heavenly Father.  
Help me live for you each day.  
You give me joy and gladness.  
Hear my prayer, hear my prayer,  
Hear me, heavenly Father.**

## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

### Bedside Manner

#### What You'll Do

Form the puppets around your index fingers, and tape them. Have all the children sit on the blanket you spread out earlier. Open your Bible to Acts 9.

Say: **Our Bible story takes place around a bed.**

Ask:

**Have you ever been so sick that you had to stay in bed? How did you feel?**  
Allow children time to respond.

Hold up the Tabitha finger puppet.

Say: **Tabitha was a woman who loved God. She made cloth like these pieces into clothes for many people.** Pass the fabric squares around, and let the children feel them. **One day Tabitha got so sick that she died.** Lay the Tabitha finger puppet down. **Her friends were sad.** Have all the children pretend to cry. Show children the “Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead” poster hanging on the wall.

**Let's put bandages on poor Tabitha to show that she was really sick.** Give each child an adhesive bandage, and help kids stick their bandages on Tabitha. Then have kids gather on the blanket again.

Say: **When Peter heard what had happened, he went to her house and prayed that God would do a miracle.** Show the Peter finger puppet. **He prayed that Tabitha would be well.** Direct the children to make praying hands.

**Peter knew God answered his prayer, so he told Tabitha to get up.** Lead children in saying, “Get up, Tabitha!” **Tabitha got up.** Have the Tabitha finger puppet get up. **Let's remove the bandages on Tabitha to show that God made her well.**



Have children remove the bandages they placed on the “Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead” poster. Then have kids gather on the blanket again.

Say: **When everyone saw Tabitha up and walking around, they knew that ► GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS. Many people believed in God because of Tabitha’s story. Do you believe in God? God hears your prayers, too! Let’s pray right now. Thank you, God, for hearing our prayers. In Jesus’ name, amen.**

.....

### 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Puttin’ on the Ritz

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Help children look for labels inside their clothing. Point out that the labels tell us who made the clothes. Let each child put on a paper-sack vest.

Say: **God made Tabitha well so that she could go back to making pretty clothes for people. Let’s decorate your vests with marker designs. When you finish, we’ll glue a picture of Tabitha and her bed inside your vests to be like the labels in your regular clothing.**

When the kids finish coloring the vests, help them glue the “labels” inside the neckline.

## Will You Get Up?

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Have the twos sit in a circle. Stand in the center, and explain that you will sing a song asking either the boys or the girls to stand. Sing this song to the tune of “Mulberry Bush” (not on CD).

🎵 **Little [boys or girls], will you get up?  
Will you get up, will you get up?  
Little [boys or girls], will you get up?  
Will you get up today?**

Say: **You got up because you are strong and healthy. Was Tabitha strong and healthy? No! But Peter prayed and asked God to make her well. Did God hear Peter’s prayers? Yes! Whose prayers does God hear?**

Allow children to respond. Repeat the game and the dialogue several times, giving both the boys and the girls a chance to stand. You can substitute other words for “get up,” such as “jump up” or “climb up,” and have the children pantomime the actions.



### Puttin’ on the Ritz Supplies

.....

1 paper grocery sack  
per child  
scissors  
markers  
My Bible Snuggles or  
1 copy per child of  
the “Tabitha and Bed”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)  
glue sticks

### Puttin’ on the Ritz Easy Prep

.....

Remove the Lesson 8  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book. Make vests out  
of paper grocery sacks  
by cutting holes for the  
arms and head. Cut a  
slit up the middle of  
the front of the sack to  
the head hole, creating  
an opening. Cut the  
pictures of Tabitha  
and the bed from each  
handout.





### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).





# Growing With Jesus



**Y**our child learned God hears our prayers (from Acts 9:36-43). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

## INFANT

### Get Up, Tabitha!

Hold your baby on your lap, and do this action rhyme.

**Tabitha made clothes; she made them very quick.** (*Gently make a sewing motion with baby's hands.*)

**Tabitha helped the poor, but then she got sick.** (*Lean baby back.*)

**Peter came and prayed; Tabitha arose.** (*Raise baby up.*)

**She got back to making everyone new clothes.** (*Gently make a sewing motion with baby's hands.*)

Say: **Tabitha's story reminds us that God hears our prayers.**

## TODDLER

### Pop Up, Tabitha!

Use a fine-tipped marker to draw a face on your toddler's index finger. Show your child how to close his or her fist to hide the face and then lift only the index finger. Do the following finger play together.

**Pop up, Tabitha! God heard Peter's prayer. Don't hide under the covers! Please come out of there.**

**Dance a little dance!** (*Have child wiggle finger.*)

**Turn around and around!** (*Have child rotate hand.*)

**God has healed your body,**

**So make a happy sound.** (*Encourage your child to cheer.*)

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### Puttin' on the Ritz

Make a vest out of a paper grocery sack by cutting holes for the arms and head. Cut a slit up the middle of the front of the sack to the head hole, creating an opening. Let your child put on a paper-sack vest.

Say: **Tabitha was sick, but Peter prayed for her, and God heard Peter's prayers. God made Tabitha well so that she could go back to making pretty clothes for people. Let's decorate your vest with marker designs.**

When your 2-year-old has finished coloring the vest, help him or her put the vest back on. Pray with your child, thanking God for hearing our prayers.



## Practical Prayers

Here's a practical guide to praying with children of nursery age:

- **Infants**—Pray short prayers within normal conversation and prayers of blessing as you snuggle or put baby to bed.
- **Toddlers**—Set aside prayer times by folding your hands and bowing your head. Don't expect toddlers to keep their eyes closed. They're too busy watching you pray.
- **Twos**—Encourage 2-year-olds to list prayers within a category such as people to bless, things that make us happy, or things they need help with.



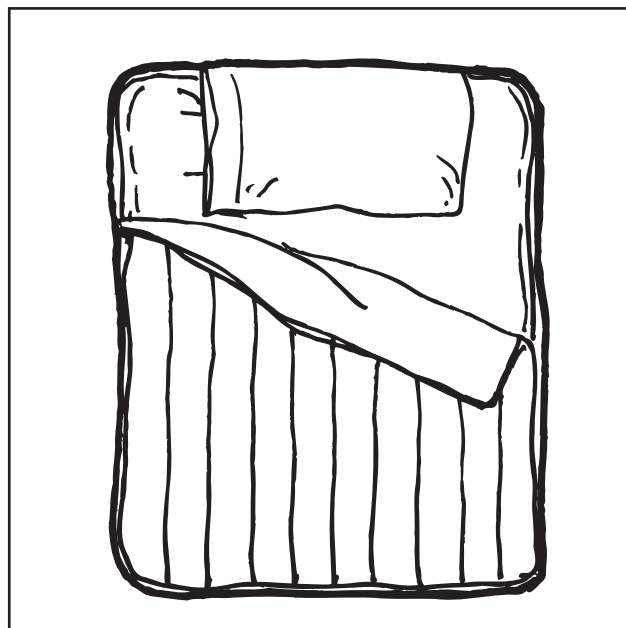
### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

Have your child feel the textures of many different pieces of clothing. Remind your child that Tabitha made clothes and that God healed her when Peter prayed.

Create a refrigerator photo-gallery of people to pray for regularly. Together pray for someone each time you get your child a snack.



## Tabitha and Bed



**OK  
TO COPY**

Illustrated by Nancy Munger.

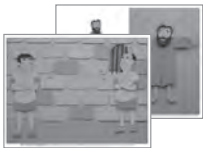


# An Angel Frees Peter From Jail

Acts 12:1-18

We know that angels provide the music of heaven through their worship. Music is one of the best brain builders, and the window of opportunity for acquiring musical skill opens at birth. The voice is the first and primary musical instrument for children. Many children sing before they speak. A musically rich environment will help promote listening, reasoning, and self-control skills.

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>God Helps Us</b> Watch as an angel frees Peter from jail.	2 white socks, safety pin, aluminum foil, sharpened pencil, scissors, yarn <b>Teacher Pack:</b> "Peter's Prison Scene" teaching picture, Peter in prison figure (from the teaching picture set) 	Prepare the "Peter's Prison Scene" teaching picture by using a pencil point to poke holes in the pre-marked places. Thread a 6-inch piece of yarn through the two holes at either side of where Peter will be placed. Cut out the Peter in Prison figure. Use the yarn to tie around Peter's wrists in a bow, securing the figure to the jail scene. Create an angel puppet by pushing one balled-up white sock into the toe of another white sock. Use a safety pin to attach an aluminum foil halo. Do not give this puppet to the children to play with.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Angel Tummy-Tickler</b> Hear a tummy tickler about angels.	angel puppet from the "God Helps Us" activity	
	<b>One Little Angel</b> Hear and see a finger play about angels.		
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 9 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



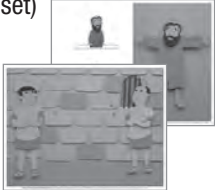
► **Bible Point**  
God's angels help us.

**Key Verse**  
"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).

**Weaving Faith Into Life**  
Children will hear the story of an angel's freeing Peter from jail and begin to learn that God sends his angels to help us.




## TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Sing or listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>An Angel for Peter</b> Help the angel free Peter from jail.	Bible, 2 white socks, safety pin, aluminum foil, sharpened pencil, scissors, yarn <b>Teacher Pack:</b> “Peter’s Prison Scene” teaching picture, Peter in prison figure (from the teaching picture set) 	Prepare the “Peter’s Prison Scene” teaching picture by using a pencil point to poke holes in the pre-marked places. Thread a 6-inch piece of yarn through the two holes at either side of where Peter will be placed. Cut out the Peter in Prison figure. Use the yarn to tie around Peter’s wrists in a bow, securing the figure to the jail scene. Create an angel puppet by pushing one balled-up white sock into the toe of another white sock. Use a safety pin to attach an aluminum foil halo. Do not give this puppet to the children to play with.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Peter’s Angel</b> Add sparkly sugar to make the angel’s robe shimmer.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Peter’s Angel” page (at the end of the lesson), glue sticks, saltshaker of white sugar	Remove the Lesson 9 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Set out glue sticks, a saltshaker filled with white sugar, and the “Peter’s Angel” handouts.
	<b>Angel Help</b> Play a game to remember the Bible story.	blocks	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.



**2-YEAR-OLD**

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Sing or listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>An Angel Helps Peter</b> Participate in the story of an angel rescuing Peter from jail.	Bible, 2 white socks, safety pin, aluminum foil, sharpened pencil, scissors, yarn, flashlight, glue, 1-inch square of satin per child <b>Teacher Pack:</b> “Peter’s Prison Scene” teaching picture, Peter in prison figure (from the teaching picture set), “An Angel Frees Peter” poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack) 	Prepare the “Peter’s Prison Scene” teaching picture by using a pencil point to poke holes in the pre-marked places. Thread a 6-inch piece of yarn through the two holes at either side of where Peter will be placed. Cut out the Peter in Prison figure. Use the yarn to tie around Peter’s wrists in a bow, securing the figure to the jail scene. Create an angel puppet by pushing one balled-up white sock into the toe of another white sock. Use a safety pin to attach an aluminum foil halo. Do not give this puppet to the children to play with.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Free Peter!</b> Play a game to retell the story.	angel puppet from the “An Angel Helps Peter” activity	
	<b>Angels All Around</b> Make thumbprint angels to remember that God’s angels are all around us.	1 piece of black poster board, smiley-face stickers, shallow container of washable white paint	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 9 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*







## INFANT

### 1

## GETTING STARTED

# Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "All Night, All Day" (track 14) to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants.



**All night, all day, angels watching over me, my Lord.**  
**All night, all day, angels watching over me.**

**Sleep my child and take your rest,**  
**Angels watching over me, my Lord.**  
**Pray the Lord your soul to bless,**  
**Angels watching over me.**

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

Sing "God Sends His Angels" (not on CD) to the tune of "Do Lord" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants. While singing, gently bounce a baby on your knees and clap his or her hands for the first three lines. On the last line, touch baby's hands to either side of his or her eyes.



**God sends his angels to help me every day.** *(Point up; then place hand on chest.)*  
**God sends his angels to help me every day.** *(Repeat motions.)*  
**God sends his angels to help me every day.** *(Repeat motions.)*  
**Angels watch over me.** *(Hold hand above eyes, and look around.)*

### 2

## BIBLE EXPLORATION

# God Helps Us

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sit on the floor with an infant, and hold up the teaching picture.

Say: **Jesus had a good friend named Peter. The king put Peter in jail because Peter believed in Jesus. God sent his angel to take care of Peter.** Put the angel puppet on your hand. Using your free hand, untie the cutout of Peter from the teaching picture,



## Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player  
**Teacher Pack**  
CD: "All Night, All Day"  
(track 14)

## God Helps Us Supplies

2 white socks  
safety pin  
aluminum foil  
sharpened pencil  
scissors  
yarn  
**Teacher Pack**  
"Peter's Prison Scene"  
teaching picture  
Peter in prison figure (from  
the teaching picture set)

## God Helps Us Easy Prep

Prepare the "Peter's Prison Scene" teaching picture by using a pencil point to poke holes in the pre-marked places. Thread a 6-inch piece of yarn through the two holes at either side of where Peter will be placed. Cut out the Peter in Prison figure. Use the yarn to tie around Peter's wrists in a bow, securing the figure to the jail scene. Create an angel puppet by pushing one balled-up white sock into the toe of another white sock. Use a safety pin to attach an aluminum foil halo. Do not give this puppet to the children to play with.



### Angel Tummy-Tickler Supplies

angel puppet from the  
“God Helps Us” activity

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 9  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.

and hold Peter next to the angel puppet. **God’s angel helped Peter get out of jail.**  
► **GOD’S ANGELS HELP US, too.**

## 3

## WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### Angel Tummy-Tickler

#### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Put the angel puppet from the “God Helps Us” activity on your hand. Then do this tummy tickler with an infant, following the motions in the parentheses.

**Angels watch your tummy.** (*Tickle baby’s tummy with the angel puppet.*)  
**Angels watch your nose.** (*Touch baby’s nose with puppet.*)  
**Angels watch your hands and fingers,** (*stroke baby’s hand and fingers with puppet*)  
**Angels near your toes.** (*Tickle baby’s toes with puppet.*)  
**Angels near your side,** (*tickle baby’s side with puppet*)  
**Angels next to you.** (*Tickle baby’s other side with puppet.*)  
**Angels watch your front and back** (*tickle baby’s tummy and back*)  
**And everything you do.** (*Hold both of baby’s hands in the air.*)

### One Little Angel

#### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Sit next to an infant, and do this finger play.

**One little angel sent from above** (*sway one finger back and forth; then wiggle fingers on one hand from above your head to the floor, as if showing rain*)  
**Came to help us fill a house with love.**  
**Two little angels sent down to earth** (*sway two fingers back and forth; then wiggle fingers on one hand from above your head to the floor, as if showing rain*)  
**Came to help us at play and at work.**  
**Three little angels sent from God’s place** (*sway three fingers back and forth; then wiggle fingers on one hand from above your head to the floor, as if showing rain*)  
**Came to help baby stay warm and safe.**

### Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!





Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

## TODDLER

### 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■


Sing "All Night, All Day" (track 14) anytime during the lesson.

 All night, all day, angels watching over me, my Lord.  
All night, all day, angels watching over me.

Sleep my child and take your rest,  
Angels watching over me, my Lord.  
Pray the Lord your soul to bless,  
Angels watching over me.

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

Sing "God Sends His Angels" (not on CD) to the tune of "Do Lord" anytime during the lesson. Sing while sitting on the floor with toddlers, and follow the motions in the parentheses. Encourage the toddlers to do the motions with you.

 God sends his angels to help me every day. *(Point up; then place hand on chest.)*  
God sends his angels to help me every day. *(Repeat motions.)*  
God sends his angels to help me every day. *(Repeat motions.)*  
Angels watch over me. *(Hold hand above eyes, and look around.)*

### 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

## An Angel for Peter

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Open your Bible to Acts 12, sit on the floor next to a toddler, and show him or her the teaching picture.



### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player  
**Teacher Pack**  
CD: "All Night, All Day"  
(track 14)

### An Angel for Peter Supplies

Bible  
2 white socks  
safety pin  
aluminum foil  
sharpened pencil  
scissors  
yarn  
**Teacher Pack**  
"Peter's Prison Scene"  
teaching picture  
Peter in prison figure (from  
the teaching picture set)

### An Angel for Peter Easy Prep

Prepare the "Peter's Prison Scene" teaching picture by using a pencil point to poke holes in the pre-marked places. Thread a 6-inch piece of yarn through the two holes at either side of where Peter will be placed. Cut out the Peter in Prison figure. Use the yarn to tie around Peter's wrists in a bow, securing the figure to the jail scene. Create an angel puppet by pushing one balled-up white sock into the toe of another white sock. Use a safety pin to attach an aluminum foil halo. Do not give this puppet to the children to play with.



## Peter's Angel Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Peter's Angel" page (at the end of the lesson)

glue sticks  
saltshaker of white sugar

## ALLERGY ALERT

## Peter's Angel Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 9 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Set out glue sticks, a saltshaker filled with white sugar, and the "Peter's Angel" andouts.

## Angel Help Supplies

blocks

## Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

Say: **The Bible tells us about one of Jesus' friends named Peter. Peter was put in jail by a mean king because Peter loved Jesus. Peter prayed to God. Peter's friends prayed for Peter, too. God sent his angel to help Peter.** Put the angel puppet on your hand. **God's angel took the chains off Peter's arms. Would you like to be an angel helper?** Touch the toddler with the angel puppet, and then help him or her untie the bow and remove Peter from the teaching picture. **Now Peter is free. God's angel helped Peter get away from the guards. Peter's friends were happy to see him. God's angel helped Peter, and ► GOD'S ANGELS HELP US.**

# 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Peter's Angel

### What You'll Do

Work with one child at a time, helping him or her spread glue over the angel's robe. Then let the child sprinkle sugar over the glue to create a sparkly picture. As each child works, explain that the Bible tells us that angels sometimes look shiny and bright.

Say: **God sent an angel to help Peter. You made an angel to remind you that ► GOD'S ANGELS HELP US, too.**

## Angel Help

### What You'll Do

Play this game with the toddlers, choosing one child at a time to be an angel.

Say: **God sent his angel to help Peter. God sends his angels to help us, too. Can you be like an angel and help me build with blocks?** Do the activity with the child; then choose another activity that works in the classroom, such as picking up toys, giving someone a drink, or distributing snacks. **You were like an angel. You helped me. God sends his angels to help us.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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2-YEAR-OLD

1

GETTING  
STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "All Night, All Day" (track 14) anytime during the lesson.



**All night, all day, angels watching over me, my Lord.  
All night, all day, angels watching over me.**

**Sleep my child and take your rest,  
Angels watching over me, my Lord.  
Pray the Lord your soul to bless,  
Angels watching over me.**

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

Sing "God Sends His Angels" (not on CD) to the tune of "Do Lord" anytime during the lesson. As the children sing, encourage them to hold their hands to their eyes like binoculars.



**God sends his angels to help me every day. (Point up; then place hand on chest.)  
God sends his angels to help me every day. (Repeat motions.)  
God sends his angels to help me every day. (Repeat motions.)  
Angels watch over me. (Hold hand above eyes, and look around.)**

2

BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## An Angel Helps Peter

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Gather the twos near you, open your Bible to Acts 12, and show the Peter in prison figure. Set the angel puppet next to you. Give a child a flashlight to hold.

Say: **A man named Peter loved telling people about Jesus. A mean king had Peter put in jail because Peter served Jesus. Tie the Peter figure onto the teaching picture. One night in jail, Peter and the guards were sleeping. Let's all pretend to be asleep. God sent an angel to get Peter. Hold the angel puppet near Peter. A bright light shone**



### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "All Night, All Day" (track 14)

### An Angel Helps Peter Supplies

Bible

2 white socks

safety pin

aluminum foil

sharpened pencil

scissors, yarn, flashlight, glue

1-inch square of satin per  
child

**Teacher Pack**

"Peter's Prison Scene" teaching  
picture

Peter in prison figure (from the  
teaching picture set)

"An Angel Frees Peter" poster  
(from the Big Bible Poster Pack)

### An Angel Helps Peter Easy Prep

Prepare the "Peter's Prison Scene" teaching picture by using a pencil point to poke holes in the pre-marked places. Thread a 6-inch piece of yarn through the two holes at either side of where Peter will be placed. Cut out the Peter in Prison figure. Use the yarn to tie around Peter's wrists in a bow, securing the figure to the jail scene. Create an angel puppet by pushing one balled-up white sock into the toe of another white sock. Use a safety pin to attach an aluminum foil halo. Do not give this puppet to the children to play with.



**in the jail. “Wake up! Wake up!” said the angel.** Give each child one small piece of satin or other smooth, shiny fabric. Lay out the “Angel Frees Peter” poster on the floor. Spread a thin layer of glue over the angel’s clothes in the picture. Encourage children to stick their pieces of fabric on the glue.

Have the child with the flashlight shine the light on the teaching picture.

Say: **The angel helped Peter get away from the jail.** Untie the picture of Peter, and hand it to a 2-year-old. **Peter left quickly.** Have the child with the Peter figure run around the story area one time. **Everyone, show me how excited Peter and his friends must have been.**

**God’s angel helped Peter leave the jail. ► GOD’S ANGELS HELP US, too.**

Retell the story several times, allowing different children to use the flashlight and hold the Peter figure.

### 3

## WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### Free Peter!

#### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Form groups of three. Have trio members hold hands in a line and then sit down. Explain that the two children on the ends of each line are the guards and the inside child is Peter. Put the angel puppet from the “An Angel Helps Peter” activity on your hand, and turn off the lights in the classroom. Tell the children that when you turn on the light, the “angel” will come over to one of the groups and take Peter by the hand. Then the two of you will go to free another Peter. Play until all of the children acting as Peter have been freed. Then the children can regroup to allow another child a chance to be Peter.

Ask:

**Whom did God send to help Peter?** Let children respond.

Say: ► **GOD’S ANGELS HELP US, too!**

### Angels All Around

#### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Lay a large sheet of black poster board on a table or floor. Set out a shallow container with a thin layer of washable white paint. Help the twos place smiley-face stickers all over the poster board. Explain that the stickers are like us. Then show children how to press their thumbs into the paint and then make thumbprints all around the smiley faces.

#### Free Peter! Supplies

angel puppet from the  
“An Angel Helps Peter”  
activity

#### Angels All Around Supplies

1 piece of black poster  
board  
smiley-face stickers  
shallow container of  
washable white paint



Say: **Look at all the angels you made! It looks like there are angels all around us! God gives us angels to help us.**

You can leave this activity set up, as twos will enjoy returning to it.

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 9  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.



HOME  
CONNECT®

## Music Makers

We know that in addition to being helpers of men and messengers of God, angels provide the music of heaven. Music is one of the best brain builders, and the window of opportunity for acquiring musical skill opens at birth. A musically rich environment will help promote listening, reasoning, and self-control skills. The voice is the first and primary musical instrument for children. Even if you feel you can't carry a tune, sing songs of God's love to your child.

**OK  
TO COPY**

# Growing With Jesus

Your child learned God's angels help us (from Acts 12:1-18). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

### INFANT

#### One Little Angel

Sit next to your infant, and do this finger play.

#### One little angel sent from

**above** (*sway one finger back and forth; then wiggle fingers on one hand from above your head to the floor, as if showing rain*)

#### Came to help us fill a house with love.

**Two little angels sent down to earth** (*sway two fingers back and forth; then wiggle fingers on one hand from above your head to the floor, as if showing rain*)

#### Came to help us at play and at work.

**Three little angels sent from God's place** (*sway three fingers back and forth; then wiggle fingers on one hand from above your head to the floor, as if showing rain*)

#### Came to help baby stay warm and safe.



#### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

Look for a special angel picture to put in your child's room as a reminder that angels help us. Look for pictures of angels in a favorite Bible storybook, and talk about the people whom angels have helped.

### TODDLER

#### Angel Help

Play this game with your toddler. Have your child pretend to be an angel.

Say: **God sent his angel to help Peter. God sends his angels to help us, too. Can you be like an angel and help me build with blocks?** Do the activity with your child, and then choose another activity that works well at home, such as picking up toys or giving someone a drink. **You were like an angel. You helped me. God sends his angels to help us.**

### 2-YEAR-OLD

#### Angels All Around

Lay a sheet of black poster board or construction paper on a table or floor. Set out a shallow container with a thin layer of washable white paint. Help your 2-year-old place smiley-face stickers all over the poster board. Explain that the stickers are like us. Then show your child how to press his or her thumb into the paint and then make thumbprints all around the stickers.

Say: **Look at all the angels you made! It looks like there are angels all around us! God gives us angels to help us.**



## Peter's Angel



**OK  
TO COPY**  
Illustrated by Nancy Munger.








# Lydia Is Converted

Acts 16:9-15

It's likely that a baby perceives red, blue, yellow, and green by the age of four months. These are also likely to be the earliest colors children can identify and name—though at least one study found 2-year-olds to have a penchant for orange! While you might have a few twos who can identify purple—Lydia's color—without prompting, it's common for secondary colors to be confusing to children until they are school age.

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Who Do We Need?</b> Learn that everyone needs Jesus.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD, purple cloth, Jesus figure (from the teaching picture set) 	
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Who Needs Jesus?</b> Play Peekaboo to see who needs Jesus.	baby blanket	
	<b>I Need the Lord</b> Sing a song with actions to learn that everyone needs Jesus.		
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 10 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.



► **Bible Point**  
Everyone needs Jesus.



**Key Verse**  
"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).

**Weaving Faith Into Life**  
Children will learn that everyone we know needs Jesus.







## TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Sing or listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Jesus Is All We Need</b> Hold and touch items as they hear how Lydia needed Jesus.	Bible <b>Teacher Pack:</b> purple cloth, plastic coin, Jesus figure (from the teaching picture set) 	
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Paste the Purple</b> Decorate a cross as a reminder that we all need Jesus.	saltshaker of grape gelatin powder, glue, foam plate, 1 cotton swab per child, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Jesus Is All We Need” page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 10 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Pour glue onto a foam plate.
	<b>Who We Really Need</b> Play a game to learn who we really need.	coffee can with lid, masking tape, scissors <b>Teacher Pack:</b> purple cloth, plastic coin, Jesus figure (from the teaching picture set) 	Cut a wide slit in the plastic lid of a coffee can, leaving about one-half inch between the slit and the edge of the lid. Put masking tape around the rough edges of the can.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.



**2-YEAR-OLD**

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Sing or listen to praise songs.	CD player, 1 scarf or crepe paper streamer per child <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>All We Need Is Jesus</b> Share special gifts and discover that all we really need is Jesus.	Bible, purple gift bag <b>Teacher Pack:</b> purple cloth, plastic coin, Jesus figure (from the teaching picture set) 	Bring a purple gift bag, and place the items in it.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>"I Need Jesus" Necklace</b> Make a necklace to wear as a reminder that we all need Jesus.	purple poster board, hole punch, yarn, scissors, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Jesus Is All We Need" page (at the end of the lesson)	Cut out crosses from purple poster board. You can use the cross on the "Jesus Is All We Need" handout as a pattern. You'll need one for each child. Cut yarn into 16-inch pieces. You'll need one for each child.
	<b>Who Do We Need?</b> Make a special gift for someone.	2 envelopes per child <b>Teacher Pack:</b> Jesus figure (from the teaching picture set) 	Make enough copies of the Jesus figure so that you have two for each child. Place one for each child in an individual unsealed envelope. Have additional envelopes available.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*







## INFANT

## 1

GETTING  
STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "Lydia Walks With Christ" (track 15) to the tune of "Rise and Shine" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants. Sing as you gently bounce a baby on your lap. Lift baby's hands on the word "Christ," and touch baby's chest when you sing the word "hearty."



**Lydia sold purple and had lots of money, money.  
Lydia sold purple and had lots of money, money.  
One thing she was missing, honey, honey.  
Lydia needed Christ.**

**Lydia met Jesus and gave him her hearty, hearty,  
Lydia met Jesus and gave him her hearty, hearty,  
Gave her life a brand-new starty, starty.  
Now Lydia walks with Christ.**

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

Sing "I Do, You Do" (not on CD) to the tune of "Praise Him, Praise Him" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants.



**I do, you do, (point to self and then to others)  
Everyone needs Jesus. (Spread arms out to sides.)  
We need Christ, we need Christ. (Clap hands as you sing each word.)  
I do, you do, (point to self and then to others)  
Everyone needs Jesus. (Spread arms out to sides.)  
We need Christ, we need Christ. (Clap hands as you sing each word.)**



### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

#### Teacher Pack

CD: "Lydia Walks With  
Christ" (track 15)



### Who Do We Need? Supplies

CD player

#### Teacher Pack

CD: "Down by the River"  
(track 16)

purple cloth

Jesus figure (from the  
teaching picture set)

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## Who Do We Need?

### What You'll Do

Hold a baby on your lap as you listen to "Down by the River" on the CD. Help baby hold or touch the purple cloth. Stroke the cloth gently across the baby's hands, feet, and cheeks.

Say: **This is purple cloth. Our Bible story tells us about a woman who made cloth like this. She met her friends down by the river one morning. She met Paul there, too. Paul told her about the one thing missing from her life.** Show the Jesus figure. **Lydia needed Jesus.** Help the baby hold the Jesus figure. **That day Lydia decided to be Jesus' friend.**

**Lydia needed Jesus.** Show the Jesus figure; then point to yourself. **I need Jesus.** Show the Jesus figure; then point to baby. **You need Jesus.** Show the Jesus figure.  
► **EVERYONE NEEDS JESUS.**

## 3

### WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Who Needs Jesus?

### What You'll Do

Hold a baby on your lap. If the baby can sit unassisted, place the baby on the floor in front of you. Hold a baby blanket in front of your face.

Say: **Who needs Jesus?** Uncover your face. **Peekaboo, I do!** Cover the baby's face. **Who needs Jesus?** Uncover the baby's face. **Peekaboo, [baby's name], you do!**

Play the game several times.

## I Need the Lord

### What You'll Do

Hold a baby on your lap as you sing the following song to the tune of "God Is So Good" (not on CD). Help the baby do the motions as you sing.

### Who Needs Jesus? Supplies

baby blanket



**I need the Lord.** (*Cross baby's arms over chest.*)

**I need the Lord.** (*Cross baby's arms over chest.*)

**I need the Lord.** (*Cross baby's arms over chest.*)

**I need Jesus Christ.** (*Raise baby's arms up high.*)

Say: ► **EVERYONE NEEDS JESUS!**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

### TODDLER

**1**

### GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing “Lydia Walks With Christ” (track 15) to the tune of “Rise and Shine” anytime during the lesson. Play the song on the CD, and clap and stomp to the beat as you sing.



**Lydia sold purple and had lots of money, money.**

**Lydia sold purple and had lots of money, money.**

**One thing she was missing, honey, honey.**

**Lydia needed Christ.**

**Lydia met Jesus and gave him her hearty, hearty,**

**Lydia met Jesus and gave him her hearty, hearty,**

**Gave her life a brand-new starty, starty.**

**Now Lydia walks with Christ.**

(Repeat from the beginning.)

Sing “I Do, You Do” (not on CD) to the tune of “Praise Him, Praise Him” anytime during the lesson. While singing, encourage toddlers to point to themselves when they sing “I” and to others when they sing “you.”



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 10 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: “Lydia Walks With Christ” (track 15)





### Jesus Is All We Need Supplies

Bible

#### Teacher Pack

purple cloth

plastic coin

Jesus figure (from the  
teaching picture set)

### Paste the Purple Supplies

saltshaker of grape

gelatin powder

glue

foam plate

1 cotton swab per child

My Bible Snuggles or 1

copy per child of the  
“Jesus Is All We Need”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

### Paste the Purple Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 10  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book. Pour glue onto a  
foam plate.



**I do, you do,** (point to self and then to others)

**Everyone needs Jesus.** (Spread arms out to sides.)

**We need Christ, we need Christ.** (Clap hands as you sing each word.)

**I do, you do,** (point to self and then to others)

**Everyone needs Jesus.** (Spread arms out to sides.)

**We need Christ, we need Christ.** (Clap hands as you sing each word.)

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## Jesus Is All We Need

### What You'll Do

Show one or two toddlers your Bible, opened to Acts 16. Put the Bible next to you, and put the purple cloth on your head.

Say: **Our Bible tells about a woman named Lydia. Would you like to be Lydia? Lydia made purple cloth.** Put the purple cloth on a toddler's head. **Lydia had lots of money. Would you like to hold the money?** Pass the plastic coin to one toddler at a time. **Lydia also had a lot of friends. Who are your friends?** Point out some of the other children. **But Lydia didn't know who this was.** Show the Jesus figure. **Do you know who this is? Lydia needed Jesus to be her friend. Who else needs to be friends with Jesus? You do! Touch a toddler. I do!** Have the toddler touch you. ► **EVERYONE NEEDS JESUS!**

## 3

### WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Paste the Purple

### What You'll Do

Work with one toddler at a time. Dip a cotton swab in the glue, and let the toddler spread it onto the picture of the cross on the handout. Then let the toddler shake the gelatin over the glue.

Say: **Your pretty purple cross can remind you that Lydia needed Jesus.**

► **EVERYONE NEEDS JESUS!**





## Who We Really Need

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Call a toddler to sit next to you. Place the coffee can with the lid on it in front of the toddler.

Say: **Lydia sold purple cloth, but she needed Jesus.** Instruct the toddler to push the purple cloth through the slit into the coffee can. Then give the plastic coin to the toddler. **Lydia had plenty of money, but she still needed Jesus.** Have the toddler push the plastic coin through the slit into the can. **But when Lydia found Jesus, she had all she needed.** Allow the toddler to push the Jesus figure into the can. ► **EVERYONE NEEDS JESUS!**

Remove the lid from the can. Let the toddler dump the items out and play again.

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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### 2-YEAR-OLD

1

### GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing “Lydia Walks With Christ” (track 15) to the tune of “Rise and Shine” anytime during the lesson. Give scarves or crepe paper streamers to the twos when you play the song on the CD. Encourage the children to wave the scarves as they sing.



**Lydia sold purple and had lots of money, money.**  
**Lydia sold purple and had lots of money, money.**  
**One thing she was missing, honey, honey.**  
**Lydia needed Christ.**



### Who We Really Need Supplies

coffee can with lid  
masking tape  
scissors  
**Teacher Pack**  
purple cloth  
plastic coin  
Jesus figure (from the  
teaching picture set)

### Who We Really Need Easy Prep

Cut a wide slit in the plastic lid of a coffee can, leaving about one-half inch between the slit and the edge of the lid. Put masking tape around the rough edges of the can.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player  
1 scarf or crepe paper streamer per child  
**Teacher Pack**  
CD: “Lydia Walks With Christ” (track 15)





Lydia met Jesus and gave him her hearty, hearty,  
Lydia met Jesus and gave him her hearty, hearty,  
Gave her life a brand-new starty, starty.  
Now Lydia walks with Christ.

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

Sing “I Do, You Do” (not on CD) to the tune of “Praise Him, Praise Him” anytime during the lesson. When singing, do the motions indicated in the parentheses.



**I do, you do,** *(point to self and then to others)*

**Everyone needs Jesus.** *(Spread arms out to sides.)*

**We need Christ, we need Christ.** *(Clap hands as you sing each word.)*

**I do, you do,** *(point to self and then to others)*

**Everyone needs Jesus.** *(Spread arms out to sides.)*

**We need Christ, we need Christ.** *(Clap hands as you sing each word.)*

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## All We Need Is Jesus

### All We Need Is Jesus Supplies

Bible  
purple gift bag  
**Teacher Pack**  
purple cloth  
plastic coin  
Jesus figure (from the  
teaching picture set)

### All We Need Is Jesus Easy Prep

Bring a purple gift bag,  
and place the items  
in it.

### What You'll Do

Gather the 2-year-olds. Open your Bible to Acts 16. Place the purple gift bag in front of you.

Say: **Our Bible tells us about a woman named Lydia.** Hold up the purple cloth. **What's this?** Allow time for children to respond. **Lydia's job was making and selling purple cloth.** Hand the cloth to a child to hold. Then show the plastic coin. **What's this?** Let children respond. **Lydia made a lot of money by selling the purple cloth.** Hand the coin to a child to hold. **Lydia also had a lot of friends who loved her very much. Let's give our friends a hug.** Help the children put their arms around their neighbors' shoulders.

**Even though Lydia had an important job, money, and friends, she was missing something from her life.** Show the Jesus figure. **Lydia needed Jesus.** Instruct the child with the purple cloth to place it back into the gift bag. Have the child with the plastic coin also place it back into the bag. **These things were important gifts Lydia had. One day she met Jesus' friend Paul. Paul told her she could love and follow Jesus.** Place the Jesus figure back into the gift bag. Then give the gift bag to a child.

Say: [Child's name] **can love and follow Jesus.** Encourage the child to carry the bag to another child. Repeat the affirmation to each child. When each child has held the bag, say: **► EVERYONE NEEDS JESUS.** Have the twos join hands and walk in a circle, singing the following song to the tune of “London Bridge” (not on CD).



Everyone needs Jesus Christ,  
Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ.  
Everyone needs Jesus Christ.  
We need Jesus!

3

## WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### “I Need Jesus” Necklace

#### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Work with one child at a time, and let him or her help you use the hole punch to place a hole near the top of the poster board cross. Then let the child string the cross onto the yarn. Tie the ends, and place the necklace around the child’s neck.

Say: **When you wear this necklace, the cross can remind you that we all need Jesus.**

### Who Do We Need?

#### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Gather your twos together in a circle.

Say: **I have something special to give each of you.** Show the envelopes containing the pictures of Jesus. **It’s a picture of something that you really need.**

Ask:

**What do you think it is?** Allow time for twos to respond.

Say: **After I have passed out all of the envelopes and everyone has one, we’ll open them together.** Distribute the envelopes.

Ask:

**What is in your envelope?** Allow time for children to respond.

Say: **You have each received a picture of Jesus because we all need Jesus. Let’s make “Jesus envelopes” to give to others.**

Let each child fold one of the copies of the Jesus figure and place it into an envelope. Children can lick and seal the envelopes. Ask each child whom he or she can give the picture of Jesus to. Affirm that each person they mention needs Jesus.



#### “I Need Jesus”

#### Necklace Supplies

purple poster board  
hole punch  
yarn  
scissors  
My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Jesus Is All We Need”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

#### “I Need Jesus”

#### Necklace Easy Prep

Cut out crosses from purple poster board. You can use the cross on the “Jesus Is All We Need” handout as a pattern. You’ll need one for each child. Cut yarn into 16-inch pieces. You’ll need one for each child.

#### Who Do We Need? Supplies

2 envelopes per child  
**Teacher Pack**  
Jesus figure (from the  
teaching picture set)

#### Who Do We Need? Easy prep

Make enough copies of the Jesus figure from the Teacher Pack so that you have two for each child. Place one for each child in an individual unsealed envelope. Have additional envelopes available.

**Weaving Faith  
at Home  
Supplies**

.....  
My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).



# Growing With Jesus



Your child learned everyone needs Jesus (from Acts 16:9-15). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

## INFANT

### Who Needs Jesus?

Hold your baby on your lap. If your baby can sit unassisted, place him or her on the floor in front of you. Hold a baby blanket in front of your face.

Say: **Who needs Jesus?**

Uncover your face.

**Peekaboo, I do!** Cover your baby's face. **Who needs Jesus?** Uncover your baby's face.

**Peekaboo, [baby's name], you do!**

Play the game several times.

## TODDLER

### Who We Really Need

Cut a wide slit in the plastic lid of a coffee can, leaving about one-half inch between the slit and the lid's edge, and cover rough edges with masking tape. On a scrap of paper, draw a simple Jesus figure. You'll also need a small scrap of cloth and a plastic coin (or coin covered with masking tape). Have your toddler sit with the coffee can (with the lid on it) in front of him or her.

Say: **Lydia sold purple cloth, but she needed Jesus.** Have the toddler push the cloth through the slit into the coffee can. Then give the plastic coin to the toddler. **Lydia had plenty of money, but she still needed Jesus.** Have the toddler push the plastic coin through the slit into the can. **But when Lydia found Jesus, she had all she needed.** Allow the toddler to push the Jesus picture into the can.

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### "I Need Jesus" Necklace

Cut out a cross from purple poster board. Cut a 16-inch piece of yarn. Let your 2-year-old help you use a hole punch to place a hole near the top of the cross. Then let your child string the cross onto the yarn. Tie the ends, and place the necklace around your child's neck.

Say: **When you wear this necklace, the cross can remind you that we all need Jesus.**



### We All Need Jesus

Sociologists and educators tell us that children become aware of physical differences between people as early as two years of age. Help your child learn that regardless of our physical characteristics, we are all the same in our need of a Savior.

Jesus is all we need.

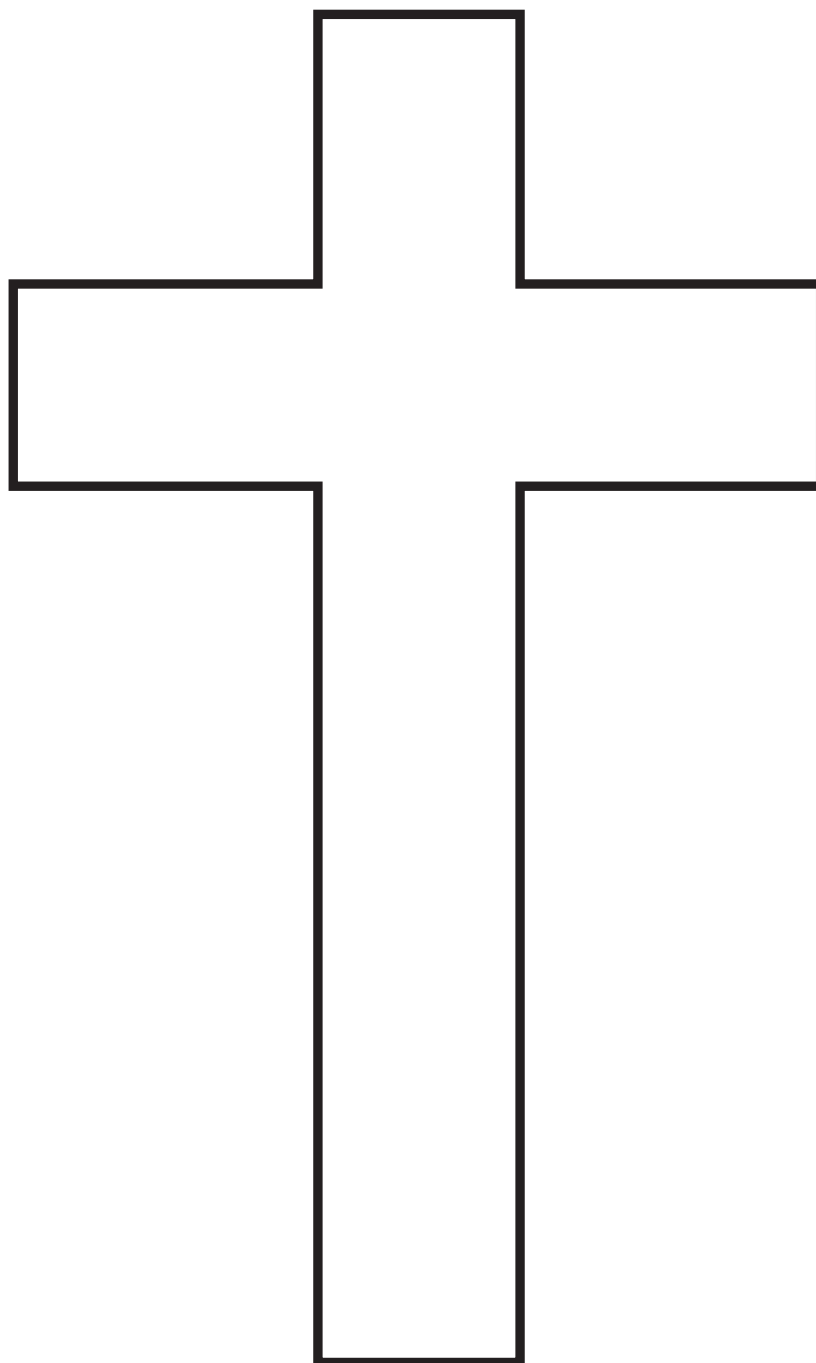


#### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

Gather several magazines. Cut out pictures of diverse people. Help your child glue the pictures onto a sheet of poster board. Point out the different people, and talk about each one. As you talk about the differences between each person, say, "We are all different, but we all need Jesus." Show your love for Jesus by sharing your Bible with your child. Show the differences between your Bible and your child's Bible. Remind your child that you need to learn more about Jesus, too.

**OK  
TO COPY**

# Jesus Is All We Need



**OK**  
TO COPY




# Paul's Jailer Believes in Jesus

Acts 16:16-34

**C**ognitively, a child develops belief as he or she develops the ability to describe attributes of God. Morally, a child develops belief as he or she is able to value God's role in his or her life. Spiritually, belief grows as a child experiences the presence of God through loving caregivers. Ethically, belief grows as children recognize and implement God's directives into their behavior. You are like a terrace gardener, sowing seeds at every level as you teach babies about God.

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Jesus Saves the Jailer</b> Hear how Paul and Silas' jailer was saved.	<b>Teacher Pack:</b> "Paul and Silas in Jail" teaching picture 	
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>The Doors Flew Open!</b> Use their arms and hands to act out the story.		
	<b>Let Jesus Come In</b> Watch a finger play that retells the Bible story.		
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 11 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



## ► Bible Point

Jesus saves us.

## Key Verse


"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).

## Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will begin to learn that Jesus saves us from our sins when we believe in him.




## TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Sing or listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Paul's Jailer Believes</b> Pull off the "jail doors" as they hear the Bible story.	Bible, self-adhesive notes <b>Teacher Pack:</b> "Paul and Silas in Jail" teaching picture 	Prepare the "Paul and Silas in Jail" teaching picture by covering Paul and Silas with four self-adhesive notes, attaching the notes vertically to look like doors.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Quake and Shake</b> Experience a "jailhouse quake."	large cardboard box, cutting blade	Choose a cardboard box large enough for a toddler to sit in. Use a cutting blade to cut along the corners of one side, leaving the bottom intact, so that the side opens up.
	<b>One Man in Jail</b> Do a finger play about the other prisoners in jail with Paul and Silas.		
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 11 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.



**2-YEAR-OLD**

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Sing or listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Paul and Silas in Jail</b> Act out the story of Paul and Silas in jail.	Bible, self-adhesive notes <b>Teacher Pack:</b> “Paul and Silas in Jail” teaching picture 	Prepare the “Paul and Silas in Jail” teaching picture by covering Paul and Silas with four self-adhesive notes, attaching the notes vertically to look like doors.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>A Jailer Believes</b> Make a “shaky” reminder of the Bible story.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Paul, Silas, and the Jailer” page (at the end of the lesson); pencil; scissors <b>Teacher Pack:</b> fashion string	Cut the Paul and Silas figures from each “Paul, Silas, and the Jailer” page. Use a pencil to carefully poke a small hole in the center of the figures, including the guard on the handout. Cut an 8- to 10-inch piece of the fashion string for each child. Use yarn if you run out of string.
	<b>“Thank You, Jesus, for Saving Me” Prayer</b> Express thanks to Jesus while singing a prayer-song.		My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Paul, Silas, and the Jailer” page (at the end of the lesson); pencil; scissors <b>Teacher Pack:</b> fashion string
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



# Paul's Jailer Believes in Jesus

## Acts 16:16-34

BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

## Paul Casts a Demon Out of a Girl and Ends Up in Jail

When Paul cast the demon out of the girl, she lost her ability to tell fortunes. Therefore, her owners saw Paul's actions as an attack on their property. They saw Paul and his companions as Jews propagating outlandish beliefs. On the basis of the owners' accusations, Paul and Silas were flogged and put in jail.

This time when God freed his servants from jail, he essentially freed everyone in the jail. Why didn't everyone flee? Perhaps they stayed because of the impression Paul and Silas had on them when they were singing hymns at midnight in spite of their chains!

The Romans dealt severely with jailers who were unable to deliver their prisoners at the appointed time. Assuming that all the prisoners had escaped as a result of the earthquake opening the gates, the jailer thought he would die at the hands of his superiors. Taking his own life seemed a better choice at that point. Only a shout from Paul stopped him. When the jailer realized that all the prisoners were still there, he was ready to accept Paul's message. And Paul's message was clear: "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved."

## The Jailer Takes Paul and Silas to His Home

It was not against any rule for the jailer to take Paul and Silas to his own home. The jailer was commissioned only to produce the prisoners when they were called for. After what had happened that night, he probably didn't fear that they would try to escape. Instead, he took care of their wounds from the flogging, gave them some good food, and rejoiced in the salvation he had received. Paul and Silas undoubtedly realized that the flogging and imprisonment they had endured were worth the joy that salvation had brought to the Philippian jailer!

## The Jesus Connection

Paul and Silas were the real deal. Their actions matched their message. Your genuine relationship with Jesus is capturing the attention of others around you.

Have you believed in Jesus? How committed are you to living out his gift of salvation? Pray about what it means to you that Jesus saved you. You can write your prayer here.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



## INFANT

## 1

GETTING  
STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "Believe in Jesus" (track 17) to the tune of "Oh Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants. Sing as a lullaby to calm a fussy baby.



**Believe in Jesus, and you will be saved.**

**The Bible tells us it's true.**

**Believe in Jesus, and you will be saved.**

**That's what God wants you to do.**

*(Repeat.)*

Sing "Jesus Saves" (not on CD) to the tune of "The Muffin Man" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants.



**Oh, do you know that Jesus saves,**

**That Jesus saves, that Jesus saves?**

**Oh, do you know that Jesus saves**

**All who believe in him?**

## 2

BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## Jesus Saves the Jailer

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Hold a baby on your lap, and hold the teaching picture in your hands.

Say: **Paul and Silas told others about Jesus. That made some people mad. Paul and Silas were put in prison. But God wanted them to keep telling people about Jesus, so God shook the jail and opened the doors.** Gently shift your legs to simulate the earthquake. Bounce your knees as you say this fun rhyme.

**"No!" said the jailer, "Don't run away!**

**I believe in your God this day."**

**Then Jesus saved the jailer.** *(Stop the "earthquake," and hug the baby.)*

Sing and Celebrate  
Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "Believe in Jesus"  
(track 17)

Jesus Saves the Jailer  
Supplies

"Paul and Silas in Jail"  
teaching picture



Jesus saved his wife. *(Hug baby.)*  
 Jesus saved their children, *(hug baby)*  
 And he gave them all new life.

## 3

WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE

## The Doors Flew Open!

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Hold an infant on your lap, and do this action rhyme.

**Paul and Silas were locked in a room.** *(Cross the baby's wrists.)*  
**All of a sudden, they heard a big boom!** *(Put baby's hands over his or her ears.)*  
**The doors flew open, and the chains were unlocked.** *(Open baby's arms wide.)*  
**The jailer grabbed his sword, but Paul said, "Stop!"** *(Hold up one of baby's hands.)*  
**"How can I be saved?" the jailer asked Paul.** *(Hold both of baby's hands out to baby's side as if shrugging.)*  
**"You must believe in Jesus, that is all."** *(Hold one of baby's hands up, and point up with one of your fingers.)*

## Let Jesus Come In

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sit on the floor near an infant, and do this finger play.

**This is the jail where Paul was kept.** *(Link fingertips, and then close hands around them, like in the finger play "Here Is the Church.")*  
**The men were awake, but the jailer slept.** *(Turn hands over and wiggle fingers; then lean head over and close eyes for "the jailer slept.")*  
**When the earthquake came, the building did shake.** *(Keep fingers linked together, and shake clasped hands back and forth.)*  
**The doors came open, and the jailer did awake.** *(Unlink fingertips, move hands apart, and open eyes wide on "awake.")*  
**"Save me, too," said the jailer just then.** *(Link fingertips again, and close hands around fingers; then hold up one finger and wiggle it for "jailer.")*  
**"Open your heart, and let Jesus come in."** *(Turn hands over, unlink fingers, and fold hands in prayer.)*



## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

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### TODDLER

## 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Sing “Believe in Jesus” (track 17) to the tune of “Oh Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?” anytime during the lesson. As you sing, kneel on the floor facing a standing toddler. Hold both of his or her hands, and swing your arms side to side in time to the music.



**Believe in Jesus, and you will be saved.**

**The Bible tells us it’s true.**

**Believe in Jesus, and you will be saved.**

**That’s what God wants you to do.**

*(Repeat.)*

Sing “Jesus Saves” (not on CD) to the tune of “The Muffin Man” anytime during the lesson.



**Oh, do you know that Jesus saves,  
That Jesus saves, that Jesus saves?  
Oh, do you know that Jesus saves  
All who believe in him?**



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

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My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

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Remove the Lesson 11  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

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CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: “Believe in Jesus”  
(track 17)





### Paul's Jailer Believes Supplies

Bible  
self-adhesive notes  
**Teacher Pack**  
"Paul and Silas in Jail"  
teaching picture

### Paul's Jailer Believes Easy Prep

Prepare the "Paul and Silas in Jail" teaching picture by covering Paul and Silas with four self-adhesive notes, attaching the notes vertically to look like doors.

### Quake and Shake Supplies

large cardboard box  
cutting blade

### Quake and Shake Easy Prep

Choose a cardboard box large enough for a toddler to sit in. Use a cutting blade to cut along the corners of one side, leaving the bottom intact, so that the side opens up.

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## Paul's Jailer Believes

### What You'll Do

Show a few toddlers your Bible, opened to Acts 16. Put the Bible and the teaching picture next to you.

Say: **Our Bible tells us about a man named Paul and a man named Silas. These men told others about Jesus. That made some people mad. Some of the people put Paul and Silas in jail. One night while Paul and Silas were singing and praying, God sent an earthquake to shake the jail. Shake the teaching picture back and forth.**

**The earthquake made the doors of the jail come open. Let toddlers pull off the self-adhesive notes. The jailer was frightened, but Paul told him the prisoners were still there. The jailer asked Paul how he could be saved. "Believe in Jesus," Paul told him. The jailer and his whole family believed in Jesus. Jesus saved the jailer and his family. ► JESUS SAVES US, too.**

## 3

### WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Quake and Shake

### What You'll Do

Invite a child to pretend to be Paul or Silas. Lower the side of the box you prepared, and allow the child to climb inside and be seated. Close the side of the box, and say the following rhyme.

**Paul and Silas, locked in chains,  
Prayed to God, and an earthquake came! (Shake the box very gently at first to make sure the child thinks it's fun. Stop shaking the box and continue the rhyme.)  
Jesus saved Silas, Jesus saved Paul,  
And Jesus saved the guard who watched over all.  
Jesus saves all who believe.**



## One Man in Jail

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Enjoy this finger play with your toddlers. Hold up the correct number of fingers for each line.

One man in jail heard Paul sing and pray.  
He learned about Jesus on that special day.  
Two men in jail heard Paul sing and pray.  
They learned that Jesus was the only way.  
Three men in jail heard Paul sing and pray.  
They learned about Jesus and said, "Hooray!"

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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### 2-YEAR-OLD

**1**

### GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "Believe in Jesus" (track 17) to the tune of "Oh Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?" anytime during the lesson. Gather a group of 2-year-olds to sing. Have the children form a train by putting their hands on the shoulders of the children in front of them and then walking around as they hear the music.



**Believe in Jesus, and you will be saved.**  
**The Bible tells us it's true.**  
**Believe in Jesus, and you will be saved.**  
**That's what God wants you to do.**  
(Repeat.)



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
"Growing With Jesus"  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 11  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player  
**Teacher Pack**  
CD: "Believe in Jesus"  
(track 17)



### Paul and Silas in Jail Supplies

Bible  
self-adhesive notes

#### Teacher Pack

“Paul and Silas in Jail”  
teaching picture

### Paul and Silas in Jail Easy Prep

Prepare the “Paul and Silas in Jail” teaching picture by covering Paul and Silas with four self-adhesive notes, attaching the notes vertically to look like doors.

Sing “Jesus Saves” (not on CD) to the tune of “The Muffin Man” anytime during the lesson.



Oh, do you know that Jesus saves,  
That Jesus saves, that Jesus saves?  
Oh, do you know that Jesus saves,  
All who believe in him?

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## Paul and Silas in Jail

### What You'll Do

Gather the 2-year-olds together. Open your Bible to Acts 16.

Say: **The Bible tells us about a man named Paul and a man named Silas. I need you to help me tell the story of Paul and Silas. I'll tell you what I need you to do during the story. Paul and Silas loved Jesus. Show me what your face looks like when you love someone.** Encourage the children to smile and look happy. **Paul and Silas told other people about Jesus. Look at your neighbor and say, “Jesus loves you.”** Pause until each child has responded. **Some people didn't want to hear about Jesus. Can you put your hands over your ears and pretend to be those people?** Pause for children to cover their ears.

**Some of the people got so mad that they had Paul and Silas put in jail. Can you show me a really mad face?** Observe each child's mad face. **Paul and Silas had chains put on their feet, and the doors were closed tight. Help me slam the doors.** Have children open their arms wide and give a loud, exaggerated clap.

**One night Paul and Silas were singing and praying to God. Let's sing with them.** Sing “la, la, la, la” in a singsong voice with the children. **And let's pray with them.** Have the children fold their hands and bow their heads.

**All of a sudden, a mighty earthquake came. God sent an earthquake to shake the jail.** Show children how to shake, rock back and forth, and bounce up and down. **The doors flew open.** Put your hands together in front of you, and then throw them open wide. Have the children do the same. **And the chains came off.**

**The guard was really afraid! He thought the prisoners had escaped. He would be in big trouble! Show me a scared look.** Look at children's scared faces. **But Paul said to the jailer, “Do not be afraid. We are all still here.” The jailer asked Paul how he could be saved, too. Paul told him he must believe in Jesus. Jesus saved the jailer and the jailer's family. ► JESUS SAVES US, too.**





Show the twos the teaching picture.

Ask:

**What happened when the earthquake came?** Let children take turns “opening the doors” by removing the self-adhesive notes.

---

**3****WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE**

## A Jailer Believes

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Working with one child at a time, lay the Paul and Silas figures on either side of the guard in the picture. Have the child push the fashion string through one figure and the handout. Leave about two inches of string between the figure and the handout. Tie knots on either end. Repeat the process with the other figure. Let the child shake the figures to indicate the earthquake as you say the following verse.

**An earthquake came, and who believed?  
The cranky old guard, and he was saved!  
Jesus saved the guard that day because he believed.  
Jesus wants us all to believe and be saved.**

## “Thank You, Jesus, for Saving Me” Prayer

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Direct your 2-year-olds to sit near you. Help them learn this prayer-song to the tune of “My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean” (not on CD).



**Oh, thank you for saving me, Jesus.  
Oh, thank you for saving me, Lord.  
Oh, thank you for saving me, Jesus.  
Like you saved the guard in your Word.**

**Thank you, oh, thank you,  
Oh, thank you for saving me, me, me.  
Thank you, oh, thank you,  
Oh, thank you for saving me.**

**A Jailer Believes  
Supplies**

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My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Paul, Silas, and the  
Jailer” page (at the  
end of the lesson)

pencil  
scissors

**Teacher Pack**  
fashion string

**A Jailer Believes  
Easy Prep**

---

Cut the Paul and Silas  
figures from each “Paul,  
Silas, and the Jailer”  
page. Use a pencil to  
carefully poke a small  
hole in the center of the  
figures, including the  
guard on the handout.  
Cut an 8- to 10-inch  
piece of the fashion  
string for each child.  
Use yarn if you run out  
of string.



**Weaving Faith  
at Home  
Supplies**

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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# Growing With Jesus



**Y**our child learned Jesus saves us (from Acts 16:16-34). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

## INFANT

### The Doors Flew Open!

Hold your infant on your lap for this action rhyme.

**Paul and Silas were locked in a room.** (*Cross your baby's wrists.*)

**All of a sudden, they heard a big boom!** (*Put baby's hands over ears.*)

**The doors flew open, and the chains were unlocked.** (*Open baby's arms wide.*)

**The jailer grabbed his sword, but Paul said, "Stop!"** (*Hold up one of baby's hands.*)

**"How can I be saved?" the jailer asked Paul.** (*Hold both of baby's hands out as if shrugging.*)

**"You must believe in Jesus, that is all."** (*Hold baby's hand up, and point up with one of your fingers.*)

## TODDLER

### One Man in Jail

Enjoy this finger play with your toddler. Hold up the correct number of fingers for each line.

**One man in jail heard Paul sing and pray. He learned about Jesus on that special day. Two men in jail heard Paul sing and pray. They learned that Jesus was the only way. Three men in jail heard Paul sing and pray. They learned about Jesus and said, "Hooray!"**

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### "Thank You, Jesus, for Saving Me" Prayer

Have your 2-year-old sit near you as you sing together this prayer-song to the tune of "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean."

**Oh, thank you for saving me, Jesus.  
Oh, thank you for saving me, Lord.  
Oh, thank you for saving me, Jesus.  
Like you saved the guard in your Word.**

**Thank you, oh, thank you,  
Oh, thank you for saving me, me, me.  
Thank you, oh, thank you,  
Oh, thank you for saving me.**



## Building Belief

Cognitively, children develop belief as they develop the ability to describe attributes of God. Morally, children develop belief as they are able to value God's role in their lives. Spiritually, belief grows as children experience the presence of God through loving caregivers. Ethically, belief grows as children recognize and implement God's directives for their behavior. As a parent you are like a terrace gardener, sowing seeds at every level as you teach your child about God.

## Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

Sing this song to the tune of "The Muffin Man": **Oh, do you know that Jesus saves, that Jesus saves, that Jesus saves? Oh, do you know that Jesus saves all who believe in him?**

Have fun creating an earthquake on your lap as you sit together. Pray for your child to believe in God and never be shaken.



## Paul, Silas, and the Jailer



**OK  
TO COPY**

Illustrated by Nancy Munger.



# Paul Describes Living by God's Spirit Romans 8:9-17

In Romans 8:9-17, Paul describes living by God's Spirit. While little ones do not understand what "living by God's Spirit" means, they can live for God in small ways. Begin by teaching them kindness, sharing, and praise as ways to live for God. Create an atmosphere of enthusiasm as you talk to each child about living for God and being God's child. Children should perceive living for God as exciting. Emphasize that by living for God, they're living as God's children.

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Finding God's Child</b> Follow a mirror to find God's child.	blanket, hand-held mirror	
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Showing Love</b> Hug a doll to express living for God through love.	doll	
	<b>Living as God's Child</b> Do an action rhyme about living for God.		
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 12 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



► **Bible Point**  
We can live for God.

**Key Verse**  
"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).

**Weaving Faith Into Life**  
Children will learn that they can live for God and be God's children.





## TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Where Is God's Child?</b> Learn a song about being God's child and living for God.	Bible, hand-held mirror	
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>What Do I Wear?</b> Play a game to learn about living for God through smiles.	hat, coat, shoes, mittens	In the play area, lay out a hat, a coat, a pair of shoes, and a pair of mittens.
	<b>Going to God's House</b> Do a rhyme and learn how they can live for God by going to church.	smiley-face stickers, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Going to God's House" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 12 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Set out smiley-face stickers.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.



**2-YEAR-OLD**

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Who Do You See?</b> Look at a mirror hidden in a box to identify one of God's children.	Bible, shoe box with lid, hand-held mirror	Place the mirror faceup in a shoe box. Cover the box.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Hide 'n' Pop Up</b> Play a game and sing a song about finding one of God's children.	bedsheet	
	<b>Thumbodies in God's House</b> Use their thumbprints to make children in God's house.	colored ink pad, baby wipes, fine-tipped marker, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Going to God's House" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 12 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Set out a colored ink pad and baby wipes.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.









## INFANT

## 1

GETTING  
STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "God Made Us All" (track 19) to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell" anytime during the session. During the song, gently clap the baby's hands to the rhythm.



**God made the big giraffe.** (*Stretch up tall.*)

**God made the tiny fish.** (*Make a tiny space between thumb and index finger.*)

**God made each of us** (*turn around*)

**Just the way he wished.** (*Clap hands.*)

**God made the elephant** (*take two big stomps*)

**Look just like it should.** (*Hold arm out like a trunk in front of nose.*)

**God made me the way I am** (*hold both hands over chest*)

**And said, "It is good."** (*Clap hands.*)

**I'm glad I'm not a cat.** (*Meow and "wash" like a cat.*)

**I'm glad I'm not a dog.** (*Pant and bark like a dog.*)

**I'm glad that I am God's dear child** (*hug self*)

**And not a big bullfrog!** (*Bounce and jump.*)

Sing "Living for God" (not on CD) to the tune of "Frère Jacques" anytime during the session. Sing it as a lullaby while you rock an infant.



**Living for God, living for God** (*point to sky*)

**Every day! Every way!** (*Count on fingers.*)

**We will be his children,** (*hug self*)

**And we'll try to please God** (*use fingers to turn up mouth into a smile*)

**Every day! Every way!** (*Count on fingers.*)

Sing and Celebrate  
Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "God Made Us All"  
(track 19)



### Finding God's Child Supplies

blanket  
hand-held mirror

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## Finding God's Child

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Lay an infant on a blanket in front of you. Have the mirror hidden behind you. Hold the infant's hand.

Say: **Paul wrote a letter to his friends.** Trace imaginary letters on the baby's palm as you speak. **He said, "You can live for God, and you can be God's child.** Gently cross the baby's arms over his or her chest in a hug. **God's Spirit can help you live for him.** Point to the sky with the baby's arm. **You do not have to be afraid.** Cover the infant's eyes with his or her hands, and then quickly remove them. **You are God's child; you can call him Father.** Clap the baby's hands together.

### Let's look for God's child.

Put the mirror to the left side of the infant's head. Slowly move it to catch the child's attention until it is directly in front and the child is looking at the reflection.

Say: **I see God's child!** [Child's name] **is God's child!** [Child's name] **can live for God!** Repeat the activity starting at the right side of the infant's head.

## 3

### WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Showing Love

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Hold an infant on your lap. Place a doll near you.

Say: **We can live for God by showing love to others.** Show the doll to the infant. **Can** [child's name] **show dolly that you love her?** Help the infant wrap his or her arms around the doll and give it a hug.

**That was nice. Hugging is a good way to show love. I will show love to** [child's name]. Give the baby a gentle hug.

**God loves** [child's name], **too, and God is happy when we live for him by showing love to others. We can live for God.**

### Showing Love Supplies

doll



## Living as God's Child

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Hold an infant on your lap. Do the motions with the child's hands as you say this rhyme.

**I am God's child.** (*Point to self.*)

**I'll give a cheer!** (*Put baby's arms in the air.*)

**He lives inside me,** (*put baby's hands over his or her heart*)

**So I have nothing to fear!** (*Clap baby's hands.*)

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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### TODDLER

**1**

### GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "God Made Us All" (track 19) to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell" anytime during the session. Lead the toddlers in a march around the room as they sing.



**God made the big giraffe.** (*Stretch up tall.*)

**God made the tiny fish.** (*Make a tiny space between thumb and index finger.*)

**God made each of us** (*turn around*)

**Just the way he wished.** (*Clap hands.*)

**God made the elephant** (*take two big stomps*)

**Look just like it should.** (*Hold arm out like a trunk in front of nose.*)

**God made me the way I am** (*hold both hands over chest*)

**And said, "It is good."** (*Clap hands.*)



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 12 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "God Made Us All" (track 19)



**I'm glad I'm not a cat.** (*Meow and "wash" like a cat.*)

**I'm glad I'm not a dog.** (*Pant and bark like a dog.*)

**I'm glad that I am God's dear child** (*hug self*)

**And not a big bullfrog!** (*Bounce and jump.*)

Sing "Living for God" (not on CD) to the tune of "Frère Jacques" anytime during the session. During the song, have the toddlers do the motions listed in parentheses.



**Living for God, living for God** (*point to sky*)

**Every day! Every way!** (*Count on fingers.*)

**We will be his children,** (*hug self*)

**And we'll try to please God** (*use fingers to turn up mouth into a smile*)

**Every day! Every way!** (*Count on fingers.*)

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## Where Is God's Child?

### Where Is God's Child? Supplies

Bible  
hand-held mirror

### What You'll Do

Open your Bible to Romans 8:9-17. Lay the mirror facedown on your Bible. Work with one or two toddlers at a time.

Say: **Paul wrote a letter to his friends. He said, "Now that you belong to Christ, you do not have to be bad. God's Spirit will help you live for God. You will be called God's child because you are part of God's family. God will share his treasures with us, and we can live for God."**

Sing the following song, "Where Is God's Child?" (not on CD), to the tune of "Where Is Thumbkin?"



**Where is God's child? Where is God's child?** (*Put your hand to your forehead as if searching for someone.*)

**Here he [she] is! Here he [she] is!** (*Put the mirror directly in front of a toddler's face.*)

**We can live for God! We can live for God!** (*Point to sky.*)

**I found God's child—here he [she] is!** (*Point to toddler.*)



## 3

WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE

## What Do I Wear?

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Work with two toddlers at a time. Play a game with the children, having them guess what they need.

Say: **God's children need something to wear on their heads. What can you find for God's children to wear?**

Encourage the toddlers to choose the hat and take turns putting it on. Then repeat the question, naming another part of the body one of the items can be worn on. Continue until the toddlers have worn all the items.

Say: **God wants his children to wear something on their faces, too—a big smile!** Use your fingers to push your mouth into a big smile.

**When we smile, we make other people happy. We can live for God, making others happy and showing love.** Encourage toddlers to show you their smiles.

## Going to God's House

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Work with two or three toddlers at a time. Teach the children this rhyme, and do the motions with them.

**We can go to God's house** (*put fingertips together to represent a house*)

**To sing and praise and pray.** (*Wave arms; then fold hands in prayer.*)

**But we can live for God** (*point to the sky*)

**At our house every day!** (*Count on fingers; then throw hands open.*)

Give each child a copy of the church, and let kids put smiley-face stickers inside the church to represent happy children in God's house.

Say: **We can live for God by going to his house.**

**What Do I Wear?  
Supplies**

hat  
coat  
shoes  
mittens

**What Do I Wear?  
Easy Prep**

In the play area, lay out a hat, a coat, a pair of shoes, and a pair of mittens.

**Going to God's House  
Supplies**

smiley-face stickers  
My Bible Snuggles or  
1 copy per child of  
the "Going to God's  
House" page (at the  
end of the lesson)

**Going to God's House  
Easy Prep**

Remove the Lesson 12 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Set out smiley-face stickers.



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

#### Teacher Pack

CD: "God Made Us All" (track 19)

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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### 2-YEAR-OLD

## 1

### GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do

Sing "God Made Us All" (track 19) to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell" anytime during the session. Lead children in doing the motions.



**God made the big giraffe.** (*Stretch up tall.*)

**God made the tiny fish.** (*Make a tiny space between thumb and index finger.*)

**God made each of us** (*turn around*)

**Just the way he wished.** (*Clap hands.*)

**God made the elephant** (*take two big stomps*)

**Look just like it should.** (*Hold arm out like a trunk in front of nose.*)

**God made me the way I am** (*hold both hands over chest*)

**And said, "It is good."** (*Clap hands.*)

**I'm glad I'm not a cat.** (*Meow and "wash" like a cat.*)

**I'm glad I'm not a dog.** (*Pant and bark like a dog.*)

**I'm glad that I am God's dear child** (*hug self*)

**And not a big bullfrog!** (*Bounce and jump.*)

Sing "Living for God" (not on CD) to the tune of "Frère Jacques" anytime during the session. During the song, have the children sit on the floor and wave their arms in worship as they sing.



**Living for God, living for God** (*point to sky*)

**Every day! Every way!** (*Count on fingers.*)

**We will be his children,** (*hug self*)

**And we'll try to please God** (*use fingers to turn up mouth into a smile*)

**Every day! Every way!** (*Count on fingers.*)



## 2

BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## Who Do You See?

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Open your Bible to Romans 8:9-17.

Say: **Paul wrote a letter to his friends in Rome. He said, "Dear friends, when you have Christ living in you, you belong to him. You do not have to keep doing bad things. God's Spirit can help you. You don't have to live in fear; you can live for God. You will be called God's children, and God will share his treasures with you. You can call God 'Father' because you are now part of his family."**

Show the children the box.

Say: ► **WE CAN LIVE FOR GOD** and be called his children. Look in the box, and you'll see one of God's children.

Ask:

**Who did you see?**

Say: **Yes, you saw [child's name]! You are God's child. You can live for God.**

## 3

WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE

## Hide 'n' Pop Up

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Let the children take turns hiding under a bedsheet. (They don't have to cover their faces if they don't want to.) Walk around the sheet with the other 2-year-olds as you sing this song to the tune of "Oh Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?" (not on CD):

♪ Oh where, oh where has [child's name] gone?  
Oh where, oh where can he [she] be?  
Oh where, oh where has [child's name] gone?  
It's God's child that I'd like to see!

Encourage the hiding child to pop up and say, "Here I am!" Play until each child has a turn to hide and pop up.

Who Do You See?  
Supplies

Bible  
shoe box with lid  
hand-held mirror

Who Do You See?  
Easy Prep

Place the mirror  
faceup in a shoe  
box. Cover the box.

Hide 'n' Pop Up  
Supplies

bedsheet





### Thumbodies in God's House Supplies

colored ink pad  
baby wipes  
fine-tipped marker  
My Bible Snuggles or  
1 copy per child of  
the "Going to God's  
House" page (at the  
end of the lesson)

### Thumbodies in God's House Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 12  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book. Set out a colored  
ink pad and baby wipes.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
"Growing With Jesus"  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

Say: **We have found our friends! We are all God's children, and ► WE CAN LIVE FOR GOD.**

## Thumbodies in God's House

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Work with one 2-year-old at a time. Help a 2-year-old press a thumb on the ink pad and then on the inside of the church from the "Going to God's House" page. After helping the child make several prints, clean the thumb with the wipes. Let the child hold a fine-tipped marker as you use your hand to guide it. Draw faces, arms, and legs on the thumbprints. Ask the child to identify his or her parents among the thumbprint people, and label them as such. On the picture, write, "Thanks for taking me to church."

Say: **We're making children in God's house.**

Ask:

**What can you do in God's house?**

Say: **God is happy when his children come to his house. ► WE CAN LIVE FOR GOD by going to his house.**

Be sure children take their "Going to God's House" pages and give the pages to their parents as a thank-you for bringing them to church.

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).





# Growing With Jesus



**Y**our child learned we can live for God (from Romans 8:9-17). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

## INFANT

### Living as God's Child

Hold your infant on your lap, and do the motions with your child's hands as you say this rhyme.

**I am God's child.** (*Point to self.*)

**I'll give a cheer!** (*Put baby's arms in the air.*)

**He lives inside me,** (*put baby's hands over his or her heart*)

**So I have nothing to fear!** (*Clap baby's hands.*)

## TODDLER

### Going to God's House

Teach your 2-year-old this rhyme, and do the motions with him or her.

**We can go to God's house** (*put fingertips together to represent a house*)

**To sing and praise and pray.** (*Wave arms; then fold hands in prayer.*)

**But we can live for God** (*point to the sky*)

**At our house every day!** (*Count on fingers; then throw hands open.*)

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### Hide 'n' Pop Up

Let your child hide under a bedsheet, and walk around the sheet as you sing this song to the tune of "Oh Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?"

**Oh where, oh where has [child's name] gone?**

**Oh where, oh where can he [she] be?**

**Oh where, oh where has [child's name] gone?**

**It's God's child that I'd like to see!**

Encourage your hiding child to pop up and say "Here I am!"



## Pleasing Pointers

To very young children, living for God means learning to be what God wants them to be—such as good, kind, and loving. Their best role models are the ones they see in their own homes every day. Affirm that kindness and goodness are part of your family's identity: "Because we love Jesus, this is how we act in our family." Don't teach from only wrongdoing, but rather, try to find positive examples. When your child puts away a toy, say, "I like the way you're living for God by being a good helper." Your child will learn the most when your teaching connects with what he or she does and is interested in.

**OK  
TO COPY**



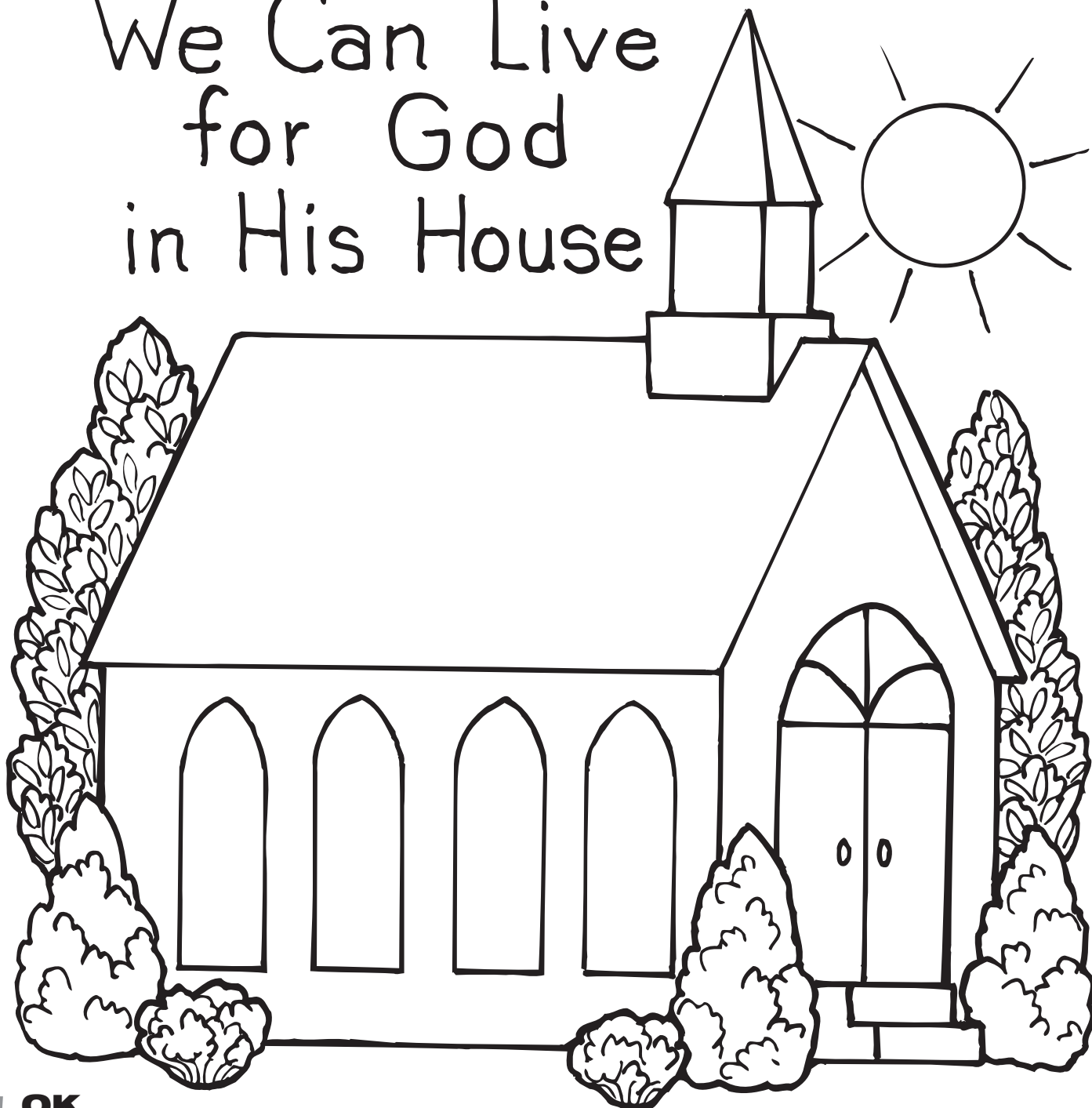
### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

Look through picture books, and have your child point out the children in the pictures. Then say, "These kids can be God's children, too—they can live for him."

Going to church is an important way for children to learn to live for God. Create fond memories that your child will associate with church time like a favorite breakfast or singing in the car on the way to church.

## Going to God's House

We Can Live  
for God  
in His House



**OK  
TO COPY**

Illustrated by Nancy Munger.




# Paul Describes Genuine Love

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

**H**elp children understand kindness, not only by your actions but by providing opportunities for children to demonstrate kind actions. Such opportunities are an important step to helping them understand God's love. Say things such as "It would be kind to give Tara the doll now" or "Let's be kind and share the blanket with Jared." Praise children for showing kindness, and remind them that Jesus loves to see us acting kindly.

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>A Window of Love</b> See and practice hugs of kindness.	scissors, tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> "Love Is Kind" teaching picture 	On the section of the "Love Is Kind" teaching picture with the five windows, cut out each window on three sides, and leave the fourth side intact. Place this section on top of the other section. Align the windows so that when they open, they each reveal a different picture of the people. Tape the two sections together.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Loving Hugs</b> Hug and kiss a baby doll.	doll	
	<b>Love Rhyme</b> Bounce to the rhythm of a rhyme about love and kindness.		
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 13 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



► **Bible Point**  
God's love is kind.

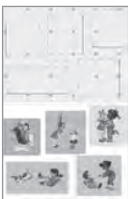
**Key Verse**  
"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).

**Weaving Faith Into Life**  
Children will be kind to others, just as God is kind to them.





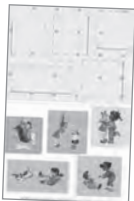
## TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Touching Love</b> See and touch pictures of kindness.	Bible, scissors, tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> “Love Is Kind” teaching picture 	On the section of the “Love Is Kind” teaching picture with the five windows, cut out each window on three sides, and leave the fourth side intact. Place this section on top of the other section. Align the windows so that when they open, they each reveal a different picture of the people. Tape the two sections together.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Acts of Kindness</b> Practice acts of kindness in a game.	water bottle, mat, blanket, washcloth, adhesive bandages	
	<b>Shiny, Sweet Hearts</b> Make hearts shiny, bright, and sweet-smelling.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Showing Kindness and Love” page (at the end of the lesson), 5 heart stickers per child, scented lip balm, baby wipes	Remove the Lesson 13 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



**2-YEAR-OLD**

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Window Scenes</b> Recognize acts of kindness.	Bible, scissors, tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> “Love Is Kind” teaching picture 	On the section of the “Love Is Kind” teaching picture with the five windows, cut out each window on three sides, and leave the fourth side intact. Place this section on top of the other section. Align the windows so that when they open, they each reveal a different picture of the people. Tape the two sections together.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>A Heart Full of Love</b> Make a heart collage full of kindness.	newsprint, scissors, magazines, glue sticks, tape	Cut a large heart from a sheet of newsprint.
	<b>Love Is a “Do” Word</b> Decorate acts of kindness.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Showing Kindness and Love” page (at the end of the lesson), scissors, fabric scraps, paper, glue sticks, bowls of dry cereal	Remove the Lesson 13 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Cut two fabric squares and a few 1-inch squares of paper for each child.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*







## INFANT

## 1

GETTING  
STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing or listen to "Into My Heart" (track 18) anytime during the lesson. During the song, pat a baby's chest when the word "heart" is sung.



**Into my heart, into my heart,** (*cross hands over heart*)

**Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.** (*Cross hands over heart; then put arms overhead with palms up.*)

**Come in today; come in to stay.** (*Motion toward yourself.*)

**Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.** (*Cross hands over heart; then put arms overhead with palms up.*)

(Repeat 2x.)

**Come in today; come in to stay.** (*Motion toward yourself.*)

**Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.** (*Cross hands over heart; then put arms overhead with palms up.*)

"Into My Heart" by Harry D. Clarke.

Sing "God Is Strong" (not on CD) to the tune of "Old MacDonald" anytime during the lesson. Hug baby each time you sing the words "God loves."



**God is strong and powerful.**

**I'm glad God loves me!**

**God is strong and powerful.**

**His power sets us free!**

**God loves you!**

**God loves me!**

**Our God's power sets us free!**

**God is strong and powerful.**

**I'm glad God loves me!**

Sing and Celebrate  
Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "Into My Heart"  
(track 18)



### A Window of Love Supplies

scissors

tape

#### Teacher Pack

“Love Is Kind” teaching  
picture

### A Window of Love Easy Prep

On the section of the “Love Is Kind” teaching picture with the five windows, cut out each window on three sides, and leave the fourth side intact. Place this section on top of the other section. Align the windows so that when they open, they each reveal a different picture of the people. Tape the two sections together.

### Loving Hugs Supplies

doll

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## A Window of Love

### What You'll Do

Sit on the floor with an infant, and place the “Love Is Kind” teaching picture in front of you.

Say: **Paul was a man who knew a lot about Jesus. Paul learned many things about God's love. Paul told everyone that love is kind.** Open the window that reveals the picture of two children hugging. **Look how these children are hugging. They are showing love by being kind to each other. May I hug you? I want to show you that I love you.** Hug the baby. **Jesus wants us to show love by being kind. ► GOD'S LOVE IS KIND.**

## 3

### WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Loving Hugs

### What You'll Do

Hold an infant on your lap. Gently place a doll in the infant's arms.

Say: **Loving is something you do. Let's do something kind that shows this baby doll that we love her.** Hug the doll. An older baby may follow your lead and hug the doll as well. **Let's do something else to show this baby love and kindness.** Kiss the doll, and then hold the doll so the baby can give a kiss. **It's good to show love. We show our love by doing kind things. ► GOD'S LOVE IS KIND.**

## Love Rhyme

### What You'll Do

Say this rhyme as you gently bounce a baby on your knees.

**Love is something I will share.  
Love shows others that I care.  
Acts of kindness day and night—  
Love is what makes all things right.**





## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

### TODDLER

## 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You’ll Do

Sing “Into My Heart” (track 18) anytime during the lesson. During the song, lead toddlers in the simple actions.



**Into my heart, into my heart,** (*cross hands over heart*)

**Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.** (*Cross hands over heart; then put arms overhead with palms up.*)

**Come in today; come in to stay.** (*Motion toward yourself.*)

**Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.** (*Cross hands over heart; then put arms overhead with palms up.*)  
(Repeat 2x.)

**Come in today; come in to stay.** (*Motion toward yourself.*)

**Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.** (*Cross hands over heart; then put arms overhead with palms up.*)

“Into My Heart” by Harry D. Clarke.

Sing “God Is Strong” (not on CD) to the tune of “Old MacDonald” anytime during the lesson. As you sing, let toddlers make muscles when they hear the words “strong and powerful.”



**God is strong and powerful.**

**I’m glad God loves me!**

**God is strong and powerful.**

**His power sets us free!**



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 13 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: “Into My Heart”  
(track 18)



### Touching Love Supplies

Bible  
scissors  
tape

#### Teacher Pack

“Love Is Kind” teaching  
picture

### Touching Love Easy Prep

On the section of the “Love Is Kind” teaching picture with the five windows, cut out each window on three sides, and leave the fourth side intact. Place this section on top of the other section. Align the windows so that when they open, they each reveal a different picture of the people. Tape the two sections together.

### Acts of Kindness Supplies

water bottle  
mat  
blanket  
washcloth  
adhesive bandages

God loves you!  
God loves me!  
Our God’s power sets us free!  
God is strong and powerful.  
I’m glad God loves me!

## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

### Touching Love

#### What You’ll Do

Open your Bible to 1 Corinthians 13. Sit on the floor with the toddlers, and place the “Love Is Kind” teaching picture in front of you.

Say: **Paul was a man who lived in Bible times. Paul knew a lot about Jesus. Paul knew a lot about God’s love. Paul told everyone that ► GOD’S LOVE IS KIND.** Open the window that reveals the picture of two children hugging. **Love is something you do. Look how these children are hugging. They are showing love by being kind to each other. Can you hug a friend?** Pause for children to hug one another. Then open the window that shows the child kicking a dog.

Ask:

**Is this child being kind to the dog?**

Say: **I don’t think so. Poor puppy. Can you pet the dog to make him feel better?** Allow toddlers to pet the dog in the picture. **Thank you for showing kindness to the poor puppy. Love is kind.** Open the window to show the family sharing a Bible.

**Look how the members of this family are being kind to each other. They are sharing the Bible. Can you touch the family?** Allow toddlers to touch the family in the picture. **Love is something we show. ► GOD’S LOVE IS KIND.**

## 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### Acts of Kindness

#### What You’ll Do

Gather a few toddlers around you.



Say: **Let's play a game and show kindness to each other. I'm going to pretend that I have a boo-boo. I think I'll have a boo-boo right here on my finger.**

Ask:

**Can someone help me put a bandage on it?** Give a child an adhesive bandage, and guide him or her in placing it on your finger.

Say: **How kind of you! Thank you so much. Oh, dear—I think I am getting a headache. Maybe I'd better lie down.** Lie down on a mat. **I would like to be covered up.**

Ask:

**Will you help me?** Allow children to cover you with a blanket.

Say: **My head hurts so much. A cool, wet cloth would make me feel so much better.** Guide children in pretending to use an empty water bottle to “wet” a washcloth. Then lie very still while children place the cloth on your forehead.

Say: **Oh, I am feeling so much better. Thank you so much for showing me acts of kindness. You must really love me. ► GOD'S LOVE IS KIND, and God wants our love to be kind, too.**

## Shiny, Sweet Hearts

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Give each child a copy of the “Showing Kindness and Love” page.

Say: **Children are being kind in these pictures. They must have hearts full of love.** Point out the various scenes, and discuss what the boys and girls are doing. Set out heart stickers.

**All of these children are showing love. Let's give each child a heart.** Guide toddlers in attaching heart stickers to the children in the pictures. **Being kind makes people feel good. Being kind probably gives people hearts that are shiny and bright. Let's make the hearts shine.** Uncap a scented lip-balm stick, and guide children in smearing a little lip balm on the heart stickers. **Now the hearts are shiny, and they smell good, too.** Clean sticky fingers with baby wipes, and allow children to smell their pictures.

**Doing kind things makes us feel good all over! Kindness shows that our hearts are full of love. ► GOD'S LOVE IS KIND.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!



### Shiny, Sweet Hearts Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Showing Kindness and Love” page (at the end of the lesson)  
5 heart stickers per child  
scented lip balm  
baby wipes

### Shiny, Sweet Hearts Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 13 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)



### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

#### Teacher Pack

CD: "Into My Heart"  
(track 18)

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### 1

## GETTING STARTED

# Sing and Celebrate

## What You'll Do

Sing "Into My Heart" (track 18) anytime during the lesson. Stand with 2-year-olds during the song, and have them bounce at their knees with the rhythm.



**Into my heart, into my heart,** (*cross hands over heart*)

**Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.** (*Cross hands over heart; then put arms overhead with palms up.*)

**Come in today; come in to stay.** (*Motion toward yourself.*)

**Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.** (*Cross hands over heart; then put arms overhead with palms up.*)

(Repeat 2x.)

**Come in today; come in to stay.** (*Motion toward yourself.*)

**Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.** (*Cross hands over heart; then put arms overhead with palms up.*)

"Into My Heart" by Harry D. Clarke.

Sing "God Is Strong" (not on CD) to the tune of "Old MacDonald" anytime during the lesson. While singing, let children act out the words—making muscles, hugging themselves and a friend, jumping high.



**God is strong and powerful.**

**I'm glad God loves me!**

**God is strong and powerful.**

**His power sets us free!**

**God loves you!**

**God loves me!**

**Our God's power sets us free!**

**God is strong and powerful.**

**I'm glad God loves me!**



## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## Window Scenes

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Open your Bible to 1 Corinthians 13, and sit with the children on the floor. Hold up the “Love Is Kind” teaching picture.

Say: **Paul lived in Bible times. Paul was one of Jesus’ friends. Paul knew all about God’s love. Paul told everyone that ► GOD’S LOVE IS KIND.** Open the window that reveals the picture of two children hugging. **Look how these children are hugging. They are showing love.**

Ask:

**Can you hug someone?** Allow time for hugging, and then open the window that shows the family sharing a Bible.

Say: **Look how this family is being kind to each other. They are sharing a Bible.** Open the window that shows the child kicking a dog.

Ask:

**Is this child being kind to the dog?** Allow children to respond.

Say: **No, there is no kindness or love here.** Open the window that shows children fighting.

Ask:

**Are these children being kind?** Pause for children’s responses; then open the window that shows a child helping another child stand up.

Say: **Here is an act of kindness. There is love here. Let’s act this one out!** Lead children in helping each other up from the floor. **Hugging, sharing, and helping one another are examples of kindness. These acts show love. ► GOD’S LOVE IS KIND, and God wants our love to be kind, too.**

## 3

### WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## A Heart Full of Love

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Set out the newsprint heart, magazines, and glue sticks.



### Window Scenes Supplies

Bible  
scissors  
tape  
**Teacher Pack**  
“Love Is Kind” teaching picture

### Window Scenes Easy Prep

On the section of the “Love Is Kind” teaching picture with the five windows, cut out each window on three sides, and leave the fourth side intact. Place this section on top of the other section. Align the windows so that when they open, they each reveal a different picture of the people. Tape the two sections together.

### A Heart Full of Love Supplies

newsprint  
scissors  
magazines  
glue sticks  
tape

### A Heart Full of Love Easy Prep

Cut a large heart from a sheet of newsprint.





### Love Is a “Do” Word Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Showing Kindness and Love” page (at the end of the lesson)  
scissors  
fabric scraps  
paper  
glue sticks  
bowls of dry cereal

### ! ALLERGY ALERT

### Love Is a “Do” Word Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 13 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Cut two fabric squares and a few 1-inch squares of paper for each child.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

Help children look through the magazines to find pictures of people showing kindness to others. Let children tear out the pictures and glue them onto the heart to make a collage.

Say: **We show kindness when our hearts are filled with love. This heart is filled with loving, kind actions. ► GOD’S LOVE IS KIND.**

Hang the collage where parents will see it as they pick up their children.

## Love Is a “Do” Word

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■

Give each child a copy of the Lesson 13 “Showing Kindness and Love” handout. Set out the squares, bowls of dry cereal, and glue sticks.

Say: **Children are doing acts of kindness in these pictures.** Point out the various scenes, and discuss what the children are doing. **You can help, too. Let’s use these things I’ve brought to help the children do their acts of kindness.**

Guide 2-year-olds in gluing a fabric square “blanket” over the sleeping child. A fabric square can also be glued to the open hamper to represent clothes. Children can wad up the paper squares and glue them to the trash can. Let children glue the cereal to the dog’s bowl.

Say: **There were many things to do in the picture that showed kindness. ► GOD’S LOVE IS KIND.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).



# Growing With Jesus



**Y**our child learned God's love is kind (from 1 Corinthians 13:1-13). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

## INFANT

### Love Rhyme

Say this rhyme as you gently bounce your baby on your knees.

**Love is something I will share.**

**Love shows others that I care.**

**Acts of kindness day and night—**

**Love is what makes all things right.**

## TODDLER

### Acts of Kindness

Say: **Let's play a game and show kindness to each other. I'm going to pretend that I have a boo-boo.** Give your child an adhesive bandage, and guide him or her in placing it on your boo-boo.

**How kind of you! Thank you so much. Oh, dear—I think I am getting a headache. A cool, wet cloth would make me feel better.** Guide your child in pretending to "wet" a washcloth. Then lie very still while your child places the cloth on your forehead.

**Oh, I am feeling so much better. Thank you so much for showing me acts of kindness. You must really love me. Love is kind.**

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### A Heart Full of Love

Draw a large heart on a piece of paper. Set out old magazines and glue sticks. Help your child look through the magazines to find pictures of people showing kindness to others. Let your child tear out the pictures and glue them onto the heart to make a collage.

Say: **We show kindness when our hearts are filled with love. This heart is filled with loving, kind actions. God's love is kind.**

Hang the collage in your child's room or on the refrigerator.



### Kindly Praise

Help your child understand kindness, not only by your actions but by providing opportunities for him or her to demonstrate kind actions. Say things such as "It would be kind to share the doll now" or "Let's be kind and put the toys away." Praise your child for showing kindness, and remind him or her that Jesus loves to see us acting kindly.



#### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

Help your child pet a family dog or cat. Teach your child to touch the animal gently. Remind your child that love is kind.

Look at a picture book that shows Jesus performing acts of kindness. Talk about how much Jesus desires to do good things for his children because he loves us so much.

**OK  
TO COPY**

## Showing Kindness and Love



**OK  
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Illustrated by Nancy Munger.