

## RHYTHMS & RESPONSES

### Authentic Faith

This year you will **incite wonder** so your child will know God's love and meet God's family.

Your two-year-old listens to your words. So this phase is the perfect time to begin talking, singing, and praying together with your toddler.

Begin by simply incorporating faith into your daily routines.

### Say things like...

Let's read about how God made the world.  
Let's read about Christmas.  
Let's read about Easter.

Read a few Bible story books—the kind with really good pictures.

God made me. God loves me. Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Jesus loves me.

Sing songs together.

### Parent Cue Times



#### Morning Time

Set the mood for the day. Smile. Greet them with words of love.



#### Drive Time

Reinforce simple ideas. Talk to your toddler and play music as you go.



#### Cuddle Time

Be personal. Spend one-on-one time that communicates love and affection.



#### Bath Time

Wind down together. Provide comfort as the day draws to a close.

### PHASE SUMMARY

# Two-Year-Old

 goodshepherdkc



The phase when nobody's on time, everything's a mess, and one eager toddler will insist, **"I can do it."**

### **Expect to be late.**

Maybe you had to wait for your toddler to “do it myself ” (just try and stop them). Or maybe they impressively filled a clean diaper just as you got into the car. Whatever the reason, this phase will make even the most punctual adult miss the mark occasionally.

### **Look forward to a few fashion statements.**

Expect a few mismatched outfits, magic marker tattoos, sticker collages, and other various states of creative expression. In this phase, you will choose not only your battles, but also which messes will just have to be tolerated.

### **Their struggle for independence has begun.**

Your first clue might be your toddler’s three new favorite words: “me,” “myself,” and “I.” Just remember, by letting them do some things “myself,” they’re not only learning new skills, they’re also developing the confidence they need in order to move to the next phase.

**It’s just a phase,  
so don’t miss it.**



## **In the Two-Year-Old phase, your role is to embrace their physical needs.**

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Your two-year-old’s changing ability is a crisis—for you, and for them. This is a season filled with uncertainty, imperfection, and even failure as they struggle to keep up with all their newly developing skills. The way you consistently meet their needs, engage their senses, and provide discipline will help them develop confidence.



**Preschoolers think  
like an artist.**

You help them learn  
when you...  
engage their senses.



**Preschoolers want to  
know, “Am I able?”**

You capture their heart  
when you...  
develop their confidence.



**Preschoolers are  
motivated by safety.**

You coach them  
when you...  
respond consistently.