

## Authentic Faith

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

Your three-year-old has many questions. Some might be about creation, heaven, church, and the Bible... and some of their questions might already be hard to answer.

Don't panic. Just like other topics, answer faith questions as simply as possible. If they need to ask more, they will.

## Say things like...

Can you let your friend have a turn?

Prompt them to share.

Are you scared? Let's talk to God about it.

"With God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26

Repeat simple Bible verses.

## 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

# Three-Year-Old

 goodshepherdkc



The phase when anything can be imagined, everything can be a game, and one curious preschooler wants to know, **“Why?”**

### Imagination is reality.

Your three-year-old might suddenly become a self-proclaimed princess, pirate, or superhero. Your bedroom might turn out to be a train station, a castle, or both. But imagination may also turn scary. Fear may set in when, at any given moment, a monster can show up in the hallway, a snake can be under the bed, or a dragon can walk through the living room.

### Everything can be a game.

You motivate your preschooler best when you appeal to their desire to play. Whatever the task, turn it into a game; make it fun. When you're having fun, they'll have fun with you. And there is simply nothing more entertaining than the spontaneous laughter of a three-year-old.

### They have a newfound curiosity.

Whether it's showcased in unrolling the toilet paper, pulling apart an older kid's LEGOs®, or the constant repetition of "Why? Why? Why?", your preschooler is eager to know how the world works. So when they ask you "Why?" for the second and third time, remember they're just looking for more of the knowledge they know you must have.

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



## OVERVIEW

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

Life for your three-year-old can be confusing. It's okay to throw a ball, but not a rock. You can hug your friend, but not squeeze his neck. Your three-year-old is learning the rules for life and encountering some necessary discipline. The way you consistently meet their needs, engage their senses, and provide discipline will help them develop self-control.



**Preschoolers think like an artist.**

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



**Preschoolers want to know, "Am I okay?"**

You capture their heart when you...  
cultivate their self-control.



**Preschoolers are motivated by safety.**

You coach them when you...  
discipline consistently.