

Tips and Activities for Parents of
Children 0 to 18 Months • Year 1

People at Church Help Me

“God gives people to help me.”

(See 1 Corinthians 12:28.)



This month we will help your child:

- develop an awareness of the name of Jesus;
- and associate Jesus with being loved and helped.

May

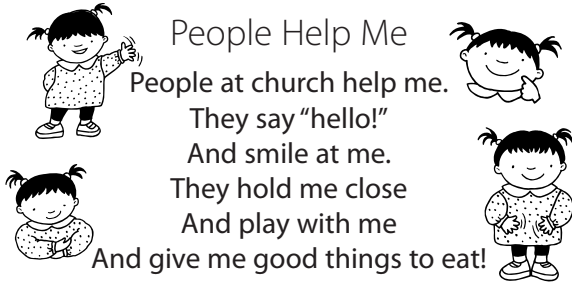
Do these activities with your child to continue the learning your child has experienced at church.

Little Activities for Little People

Babies

- When looking at a book or magazine with pictures of familiar objects around the house, call your child's attention to the real object along with the picture. Say, **Here is a picture of a rattle. Here's one of your rattles. Listen to the rattle.** Such comparisons help develop your child's awareness.
- Talk about people and activities your child has enjoyed at church. Assure your child that the teachers at church love him or her. Say, **I like to go to church with you. Mrs. Stevens loves to take care of you and help you at church.**

Do It!



Say and do this finger play as you play with your child. Use your child's name instead of “me.” Talk about the people who care for your child at church. (If your church has a picture directory, show pictures of these people to your child.) Do this finger play many times, but especially immediately before and after your child has participated in the church nursery program. Your child's confidence and pleasure in the nursery will grow as he or she sees you affirming and enjoying your child's experiences in the nursery program, too.

Sing It!

Showing God's Love

(Tune: “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star”)

I will smile and play with you.
Jesus helped His good friends, too.
I can show I care for you
To help you know that God loves you.

Sing this song as you serve a meal to or play with your child. Talk about how you enjoy caring for your child. Smile at your child and tell him or her that you smile to show you love him or her. Talk about how people at church like to smile and take care of your child. If a child knows the name of his or her teacher at church, sing the song using the person's name in place of the word “I.”

May Parent's Home Page

Children Won't Wait

There is a time to anticipate the baby's coming,
a time to consult a doctor;

A time to plan a diet and exercise, a time to
gather a layette.

There is a time to wonder at the ways of God,
knowing this is the destiny for which I was
created;

A time to dream of what this child may become,

A time to pray that God will teach me how to
train this child which I bear.

A time to prepare myself that I might nurture
my child's soul.

But soon there comes the time for birth,

For babies won't wait.

There is a time for night feedings, and colic and
formulas.

There is a time for rocking and a time for walk-
ing the floor,

A time for patience and self-sacrifice,

A time to show that my child's new world is a
world of love and goodness and dependability.

There is a time to ponder what my child is—not
a pet nor toy; but a person, an individual—a
soul made in God's image.

There is a time to consider my stewardship. I
cannot possess my child.

This child is not mine. I have been chosen to
care for, to love, to enjoy,

To nurture and to answer to God for this child.

**Little children know how to
make us laugh—even when we
probably shouldn't!**

I resolve to do my best for this child,

For babies don't wait.

There is a time to hold my child close and tell
the sweetest story ever told;

A time to enjoy earth and sky and flower, to
teach my child of wonder and reverence for
God and all He has made.

There is a time to leave the dishes, to swing my
child in the park,

To run a race, to draw a picture, to catch a but-
terfly, to give my child happy comradeship.

There is a time to point the way, to teach infant
lips to pray,

To teach my child's heart to love God's Word, to
love God's way.

For children don't wait.

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Color Walk

- Cut some paper (red, blue, green, yellow) into 4-inch (10-cm) squares.
- Give your child one of the papers. Walk around the house together, looking for items the same color as the paper.
- Repeat the activity with other colors.
- Say, **You're holding the red paper. Look! There's a red truck. It's the same color as the paper. What else do you see that's red? We're helping each other find red toys. God gives us people to love and help us.**