Congratulations! You have just downloaded a free lesson plan from the Fruit of the Spirit Curriculum for Toddlers!

This is lesson 4 in the curriculum, and it’s all about Jesus’ Resurrection. Or as it is aptly titled, Joy in the Lord.

I wanted to offer you a sample lesson plan to help you understand the make-up of the curriculum. The Fruit of the Spirit Curriculum for Toddlers is comprised of many unique and individual lesson plans, each based on a different Fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23.

The Fruit of the Spirit Curriculum is not written as a rigorous academic curriculum. It is geared toward 2-3 year olds after all. It is intended to be a fun introduction to learning, and the lessons are intended to lay a foundation of God’s Word for you to build off of in the coming years.

It is my prayer that by providing this lesson plan free of charge, you will be blessed.

If you would like to share this lesson plan with others, you may do so by sharing a link to my blog or to the page that hosts these files. Please do not link directly to just the PDF files (the link you are at now).

I hope you enjoy this lesson with your child as much as I enjoyed making it!

If you’re interested in more lessons like this, then check out the complete Fruit of the Spirit Curriculum for Toddlers here for more information.

By Grace Alone,

Leigh Ann Dutton

These files were created by Leigh Ann @ http://intentionalbygrace.com on August 18, 2014.

Webpage for direct link: http://intentionalbygrace.com/fruit-of-the-spirit-curriculum-for-toddlers-printables/
Fruit of the Spirit Curriculum
Teaching Early Learning Skills While Instilling God’s Truth

for Toddlers {2-3 years}

By Leigh Ann Dutton
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Introduction

We’ve only just begun our journey into home education, but since the day my first son was born, I’ve been considering what I want our homeschool to look like—not just preschool, but beyond preschool.

I’m certain that building a foundation of learning now will pay off later, and I want learning to be fun! I want learning to be engaging! I want learning to be intoxicating for my child!

As I’ve researched everything my child needs to learn in the coming years, I admit that it’s easy to get caught up in it all.

Yet, I always came back to this one thought:

**Jesus is the only reason I do what I do.**

Jesus is the only reason I research fun ways to teach the alphabet to my child or find Bible crafts to go along with stories about David and Goliath.

As a mom, I want to do the very best I can to raise my children up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. I’m convinced this isn’t something my husband and I put off until later. It begins now while our children are young.

**I want everything we do to point to Christ.**

I want my child to learn to read because I want him to read scripture on his own.

I want him to learn to count so that he may understand the wonder of the world being created in seven days, or the grueling length of 40 long years in the wilderness, or the importance of the third day, or a Sabbath rest.

I want him to create art with his hands and appreciate the beauty of music.

I want him to build gross motor skills so he can serve others with the strength of his arms.

**I want to teach my son that even though he is little, he can still be a part of God’s work here on earth.**

Because he can.

He can serve God even now and begin to learn and grow in God’s ways.

Your child can do this now too!
Picking up this curriculum is a great start to sharing the Gospel on a regular basis with your child. However, walking through this curriculum with your child will not be enough to instill God’s truth in his little heart.

“Our love for God is the foundation for anything we have to say. We cannot impress our children with the fame of God’s name if we are not impressed with him ourselves. If the truths about God’s sovereign power and incredible mercy have melted our hearts and produced a profound love for God, we will impress our children with his awesome glory. If God’s Word is dear to us, it will be important to our children. We must be dazzled by God. We cannot give away what we don’t have.”

~Instructing a Child’s Heart, by Tedd and Margy Tripp

Loving Jesus like crazy in front of your child, with your child, and alongside your child will be the crux to establishing a biblical, lasting foundation of God’s Word for your child.

As moms, we have to be dazzled by God. Our faith can’t be scooted to the side, boxed away just for Sundays and expect our children to want anything to do with what we’re offering.

Walking through this curriculum with your child is not a check mark in a box that says, “I taught my child about Jesus today.”

“And these words I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.” ~Deuteronomy 6:6-9

May God’s Word saturate your whole life, my friend, and may the teachings of your mouth be an overflow of your heart for the Gospel and the work of God’s Kingdom.

This curriculum will help instill God’s truth into your little one’s heart, but it’s your life that will teach your child more than your words ever will.
Week 4: Joy in the Lord

Main Concepts:

- Memory Verse: Psalm 66:1
- Bible: The Jesus Storybook Bible, pages 310-317, God's Wonderful Surprise {Jesus' Resurrection}
- Theme: Emotions
- Letter: Y
- Number: 2
- Color: Yellow
- Shape: Square

Book Basket {Ideas}:

- Jesus in Me, by Mackall, Dandi Daley, Harris, Jenny
- My Many Colored Days, by Dr. Seuss
- Percy Gets Upset, by Stuart J. Murphy
- The Way I Feel, by Janan Cain
- The Feelings Book, by Todd Parr
- Today I Feel Silly, by Jamie Lee Curtis
Day 1 {Joy in the Lord}

**Bible:** Introduce the Psalm 66:1 verse sheet. Have your child repeat after you and recite the verse together.

**Read:** Read *The Jesus Storybook Bible*, pages 310-317, *God’s Wonderful Surprise*. Talk about how Jesus didn’t stay dead. After He was crucified and put in the grave, He stayed there for three days, but then He rose from the dead! Exclaim with your child how Jesus conquered both sin and death so that we might have eternal life!

**Sing:** *Happy Day*, by Fee

**Fun Activity:** Act out the story of Jesus rising from the dead. This is a great time to get Daddy involved, if he’s available. We love doing these after dinner! Be sure to express great joy when acting out the scene!

**Additional Idea:** Make paper megaphones to really shout it from the rooftops!

**What You Need:**

- Construction paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Tape

**What You Do:**

1. Draw a large circle onto your piece of construction paper. Cut it out.
2. Let your child decorate it however he wants with markers.
3. Roll into a megaphone shape. Tape it into place.

**Craft: Fruit of the Spirit Tree Ornament**

Make a mini-megaphone to remind you that we should shout for joy always.

{Follow instructions above in the additional ideas section – just make your circle much smaller.}

Punch a small hole into your megaphone, loop with string, and hang it on your tree.
Craft: Finger Paint

Using green finger paint, allow your child to paint along the bottom portion of a white canvas.

Set it aside to dry. We’ll work some more on it tomorrow.

Letter Craft: Finger Paint a Letter Y

While you have the finger paints out, let your child finger paint the letter Y from the printables section.

Life Skills: Teach your child to make his bed. When we rise from our bed, we should tidy the covers.

Day 2 {Joy in the Lord}

Bible: Review the Psalm 66:1 verse sheet. Have your child repeat after you and recite the verse together.

Read: Read *The Jesus Storybook Bible*, pages 310-317, *God’s Wonderful Surprise*. Talk about how Jesus didn’t stay dead. After He was crucified and put in the grave, He stayed there for three days, but then He rose from the dead! Exclaim with your child how Jesus conquered both sin and death so that we might have eternal life!

Sing: *Ain’t No Rock*, Crazy Praise, Vol. 2

Craft: Finger Paint

Using yellow finger paint, cover your child’s hand and press it onto the canvas at the peek of the grassy hill. This will be your sun.

Additional Idea: While you have the finger paints out, consider pulling out another canvas. Using masking tape, tape off the letters J-O-Y. Then, let your child free paint all over the canvas. Add additional colors, if you choose. When it dries, pull-up the tape and you have JOY Wall Art!

Otherwise, let your child free-paint!

Number Craft: Tactile Number Two

Write a number two on a sheet of paper.

You can use squares of construction paper, yellow tissue paper, or whatever else you have on hand to glue onto the number two.
Fun Activity: Shape Hunt

Go on a shape hunt for squares around your home.

Life Skills: Let your child help with laundry today. Teach him to fold washcloths. Fold them into squares for an additional learning option.

Day 3 {Joy in the Lord}

Bible: Review the Psalm 66:1 verse sheet. Have your child repeat after you and recite the verse together.

Read: Read The Jesus Storybook Bible, pages 310-317, God’s Wonderful Surprise. Talk about how Jesus didn’t stay dead. After He was crucified and put in the grave, He stayed there for three days, but then He rose from the dead! Exclaim with your child how Jesus conquered both sin and death so that we might have eternal life!

Sing: Happy Day, by Fee

Craft: Finger paint

Using brown finger paint, help your child make three crosses on his painting.

Additional Ideas: While you have the finger paints out, you could try one of these ideas from Fun at Home with Kids. I particularly like number six, and it could be easily geared to review colors and shapes from previous weeks.

Fun Activity: Emotions Tot Book

Prepare this tot book from 1+1+1=1 blog for your child. It’s so much fun to work through that we did it several times over the course of a few weeks.
Life Skills: Teach your child how to properly put away his clothes. Try to enforce neatness, but don’t expect perfection. For us, we’re just pleased when it makes it to the drawer some days!

{Other Ideas for Week 4}

Feelings Memory Game from I Can Teach My Child

Family Night

Make these emotional pizzas from A Teaching Mommy and have a movie night.

Sensory Activities

- Play dough – Make letter Y’s, squares, and different faces using yellow play dough
- Create a yellow discovery bin with objects from around your home
- Lemon Sensory Sink from My Nearest and Dearest looks like a lot of fun!

For an older child (or one who enjoys worksheets):

- Letter Y Printable Pack
- Emotions Printable Pack from A Teaching Mommy
Shout for JOY to God, all the earth.

~Psalm 66:1