

The Bible Is God's Book

Bible Basis: 2 Chronicles 34:1–35:19

Toddlers adore books! Looking at colorful pictures and listening to rhymes and short stories bring great joy to young children. During the next four weeks, your toddlers will learn about the most wonderful book of all—the Bible. Help your toddlers learn that God gave us the Bible because he loves us and that the Bible tells us about God and how God wants us to live.

The Bible Is God's Book

Lesson	Emphasis	Page
11	God gave us the Bible.	143
12	God gave us the Bible because he loves us.	155
13	The Bible tells us about God.	167

Parent Page

The Bible Is God's Book

For the next three weeks, your child will be learning about the Bible. The children will use their five senses to learn that God gave us the Bible and that the Bible tells us about God and how God wants us to live. Use these ideas to reinforce the point that the Bible is God's book.

Tips for Ts and 2s

Scribbles, dribbles, and mud pies. Toddlers are masters at creative messes. But very young children are also eager to help clean if someone special asks them to. Have fun with your little helper as he or she helps you clean just as Josiah cleaned the Temple. And take time to gently polish and pat the Bible and thank God for giving us this book that tells us what God is like.

Together Time

- Play hide-and-seek using paper cups and a small toy such as a doll or a car. Turn three paper cups upside down. Show your child the toy, and then slip it under a paper cup. Move the cups around. Encourage your toddler to choose the cup he or she thinks is hiding the toy; then let your child peek under the cups. Have your child hide the toy for you to find. Mention that God helped a young king named Josiah find something very important—God's Word.
- Shop for a special Bible storybook with your toddler. Then find a cozy spot to snuggle and look at the colorful pictures. As you read the stories, ask your child to point to special things in the pictures, such as animals, flowers, trees, and people. Tell your child that God gave us the Bible to show us how to live, and we want to read it every day so we can learn more about God.
- Sing this song from class with your toddler:

The Bible Is God's Book (adapted from 2 Timothy 3:16)

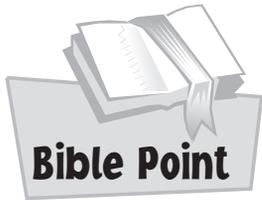
(sung to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell")

**The Bible is God's book.
The Bible is God's book.
Heigh-ho, the derry-o,
The Bible is God's book.**

**The Bible comes from God.
The Bible comes from God.
Heigh-ho, the derry-o,
The Bible comes from God.**

**The Bible helps us learn.
The Bible helps us learn.
Heigh-ho, the derry-o,
The Bible helps us learn.**

**The Bible is God's book.
The Bible is God's book.
Heigh-ho, the derry-o,
The Bible is God's book.**



Bible Point

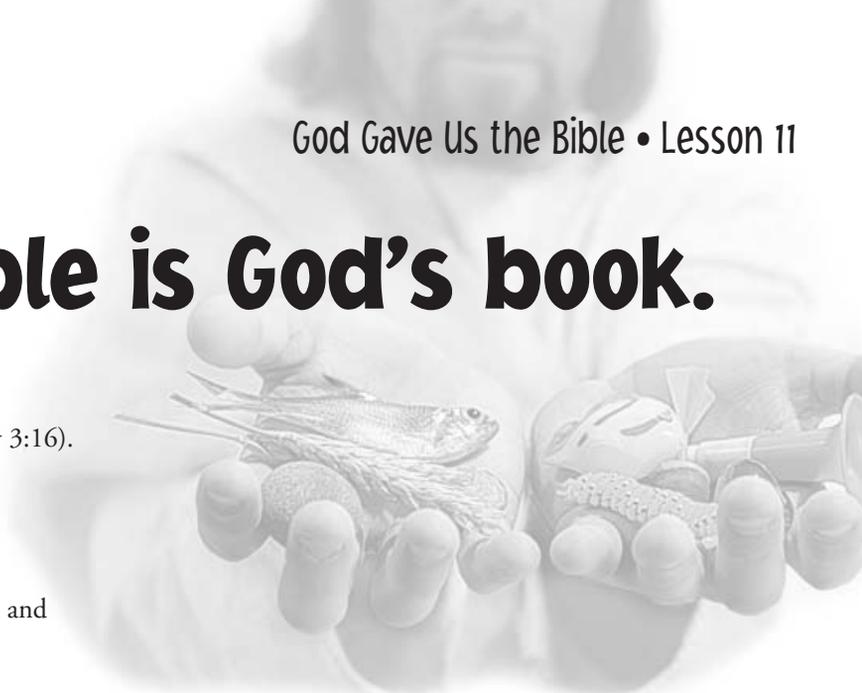
The Bible is God's book.

Bible Verse

The Bible is God's book (adapted from 2 Timothy 3:16).

Growing Closer to Jesus

- Children will
- see that the Bible is God's book,
 - learn that God gave us the Bible, and
 - know that God loves us.



Teacher Enrichment

Bible Basis

■ God gave us the Bible.

2 Chronicles 34:1–35:19



Though he became king at age 8, it wasn't until Josiah was 26 years old that God's law was discovered in the Temple. As early as age 16, Josiah had a sense of what pleased God and what didn't. He took whatever action he could based on the knowledge he was given during those years. Imagine his joy when the book of the Law was discovered! Finally, Josiah could learn about living to please God directly from God's Word. We can help toddlers and 2s see that the Bible is God's book, which he gave us as a special treasure to cherish and obey.

Prayer

- Read Matthew 4:4.
- In what way is having the Bible more important than having food?
- Reflect on a time when you were especially thankful to have the Bible to read and meditate upon.
- Pray: Lord, help me to cherish your Word more. Help me to show children how important your Word is by...

Before the Lesson

- Collect items for the activities you plan to use, referring to the Classroom Supplies and Learning Lab Supplies listed in the chart on the next page.
- Pray for the children in your class and for God's direction in teaching the lesson.



Repeating the Bible Point over and over will help the children remember it and apply it to their lives. Help children learn one point that will stay with them for days and even years to come.



Understanding Your Toddlers' and 2s' Spiritual Development

Toddlers and 2s:

- pray short, simple prayers.
- learn that God made everything.
- learn that the Bible is a book about God and Jesus.
- learn about God as a loving and kind Father.
- sing and talk about God.

This Lesson at a Glance

	What Children Will Do	Classroom Supplies	Learning Lab Supplies
Arrival Activities Direct children to one or more of the optional activities until everyone arrives.	Welcome Time —Receive a warm welcome from the teacher and Cuddles the Lamb.	Name tags (p. 8), marker, tape or safety pins	
	Option 1: Cleaning House —Pretend to clean house.	Medium-sized box; cleaning tools such as rags, spray bottles of water, brooms, dustpans, feather dusters, paper towels	
	Option 2: What a Gift! —Decorate cups with special surprises inside.	Paper cups, tape, construction paper, small bows, markers, scissors	
	Pick-Up Time —Sing a song as they help clean up the room.	CD player	
Bible Story Time	Bible Song —Sing a song about the Bible.	Bible, CD player	
	The Bible Is God's Book —Interact with sensory items on the StoryBoard as they hear the story of how God gave Josiah the Bible.	Bible, rubber band, marker, broom	
	The Bible Is True —Sing a song about God's book.	Bible, CD player	
Bible Activities	Interactive Bible Bulletin Board —Discuss with Cuddles the Lamb how the Bible is a gift from God, and create a bulletin board together.	Bible, blue construction paper, tape or stapler, gift and Bible patterns (p. 154), scissors	
	Sing It Out —Sing a song about God's book.	Bible, CD player	
	Bible Craft —Make paper brooms that really sweep.	Newspapers, scissors, rubber bands, paper clips	
	Bible Game —Sing a song and sweep with their brooms.	Rubber band, dishpan, cup of flour, piece of paper, paper brooms from Bible Craft, newspapers	
Closing 	The Good Gift —Say a prayer, and have a snack.	Bible, graham crackers, napkins, plastic knives, cream cheese	

*See the end of this lesson for extra-time ideas and supplies.

Arrival Activities

Welcome Time

SUPPLIES: name tags (p. 8), tape or safety pins, marker



- Use Cuddles the Lamb to help you greet each child by name and with a warm smile.
- Tape or pin a name tag to each child's clothing.
- Say: **Today we're going to learn that ► the Bible is God's book.**
- Place Cuddles out of sight so the children won't be distracted by him during the next activity.

teacher tips

If you wish to provide soothing background music as the children arrive, play a CD of your choice.

Option 1: Cleaning House

SUPPLIES: cleaning tools (such as brooms, dustpans, feather dusters, clean rags, paper towels, spray bottle with water), medium-sized box

Set out various cleaning tools in your “housekeeping” area, such as brooms, dustpans, feather dusters, clean rags, paper towels, a spray bottle filled with water, and feather dusters. Use a medium-sized box as a vacuum cleaner, and encourage children to take turns pushing it around the floor.

As children play, make comments such as “My, you're a good helper” and “Isn't it fun sweeping and cleaning?” Encourage children to take turns spraying and wiping the table. Tell them they'll hear a story about how people cleaned God's house and found a surprise there—God's special book! Mention that ► the Bible is God's book and that God gave us the Bible.



teacher tips

Create a simple housekeeping area by placing a few chairs and a small table in a corner of the room.

Keep feather dusters, paper towels, and spray bottles of water in your class for the entire module. You'll be using them to help tell the Bible story.

Option 2: What a Gift!

SUPPLIES: construction paper, scissors, small paper cups, small bows, tape, markers

Before class cut 2x2-inch squares of construction paper. Fold each in half like a book, and write the word “Bible” on the cover.

Set out small bows, tape, markers, and the tiny paper “Bibles.” Hand each child a small paper cup. Invite your toddlers to use markers to decorate the paper cups with colorful scribbles. Then help tape the paper Bibles to the inside of their cups. Finally, have children each choose a bow to stick on the side of the cups like a gift. Tell children that ► the Bible is God's book, and God gave us the Bible as a gift. Have children cover the tops of their cups with their hands and then peek at the “gifts” inside.



Pick-Up Time

SUPPLIES: CD player



As Arrival Activities draw to a close, gently mention that it will soon be time to clean up. Encourage children to help you pick up things in the room as you lead them in singing “Let's Pick Up All Our Things.” Use the CD (track 2) and sing the song to the tune of “Looby Loo.”



Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things
And put them all away.

Everyone here can help.
Everyone here can help.
Everyone here can help.
Let's put it all away.

Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things.
It's time to stop our play.

Bible Story Time

■ Bible Song

SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player

BIBLE VERSE ▶



Say: How do we know that the Bible is God's special book? The Bible tells us in 2 Timothy. It says ▶ the Bible is God's book. Show children the Bible. **The Bible is God's special book. The Bible tells us about God. Let's sing a song about the Bible.** Using the CD (track 3), lead the children in singing "God's Special Book" to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat."



This is God's special book.
Yes, it's God's book you see!
I learn about all God has done,
And his love for me!

(Repeat.)

Bible!

■ Bible Story: The Bible Is God's Book

SUPPLIES: Bible, rubber band, marker, broom



Before class begins, prepare your StoryBoard by following the assembly instructions provided in the Learning Lab.

The purpose of the StoryBoard is to provide an interactive, sensory learning opportunity for your toddlers and 2s.

Please attach the sensory items securely

so the children can touch them without danger of pulling the items off or putting them into their mouths.

Open the StoryBoard, and set it on the floor like a stage. Set the stones, shelf, and vase that you have punched out of the StoryBoard in front of the StoryBoard. Be sure the pillar is folded down and the lamp stand is tipped over. Write the words "God's Book" on the parchment paper, and roll it into a scroll; secure with a rubber band. Set the broom, the scroll, and the punched-out figures of Josiah and his helpers behind the

Storyboard. Scatter some of the confetti on the floor in front of the StoryBoard. Spread the spider-web material on the corners of the StoryBoard.

Say: **We're going to hear a Bible story about a special book. That special book is the Bible. Did you know that ►*the Bible is God's book?*** Point to the StoryBoard. **Our story starts here. Oh! What a mess! This is God's Temple a long, long time ago. A bad king let God's Temple get dirty. But the next king was a good king even though he was just a boy. His name was Josiah. King Josiah loved God and wanted to clean God's Temple so people could worship God there. Just look at the mess!**

Ask: • **What do you see?** (A spider web; dirt; a mess.)

Say: **Josiah picked helpers to clean the Temple.** Place the punch-out figures in the stands. Set the figure of the helpers in front of the Temple. **We can be helpers, too. Let's clean the Temple. Who can find the make-believe spider webs and brush them away?** Have two volunteers pull the webs off the StoryBoard. Set them aside. **That's better. But look... (hold up the shelf) the shelf fell off the wall. We'll fix it.** Help a child slide the shelf into the slit in the StoryBoard.

That looks nice on the wall, but where's the vase for the shelf? Choose a child to find and set the vase on the shelf.

Josiah's helpers cleaned the Temple just as we're cleaning. Uh-oh. A few stones have fallen down. Can we put them back? Help a few children replace the StoryBoard stones in the walls.

Thank you for being such good helpers. Oh, my! The pillar has fallen down. Point to the pillar. **Will someone strong set up the pillar? And we'll also set the lamp stand up.** Have two children fold the pillar into the StoryBoard and set the lamp stand upright.

The Temple is looking much better, isn't it? But we still have lots of work. Whew! Rub your forehead to show how much work we're doing! Pause for children to respond.

I think the Temple floor needs sweeping. Hold up the broom. Let children take turns sweeping the confetti into a pile. **There! What good helpers you are. Let's put the confetti in this bag.** Help children scoop up the confetti and put it in the Sensory Packet bag.

Josiah's helpers cleaned and cleaned. They made God's Temple look bright and new. Slide the scroll to one side of the front of the StoryBoard. **Look! What's this?** Have the figure of Josiah's helpers "walk" to the scroll and pick it up. **Josiah's helpers found a scroll. A scroll is like a book. What can it be? Shall we open it and see?** Help a child gently slide off the rubber band and unroll the scroll. Hold up the paper. **The scroll says "God's Book."** Point to the words and say them once more. **"God's Book." The helpers found God's special book. It's part of our Bible! This is what the Bible used to look like a long time ago.** Hold up your Bible. **This is the Bible today.**

Josiah's helpers found God's book. Let's clap to show how excited they were. Lead children in clapping. **The king's helpers ran to show King Josiah what they'd found.** Have the StoryBoard helpers "run" to the pillar on the StoryBoard.

Set the punched-out figure of King Josiah in front of the StoryBoard. Say: **The helpers read God's book to King Josiah.** Hold up the parchment paper and point to the words as you read them. **"God's Book." King Josiah wanted everyone to hear God's words, so all the people came and listened to the king read from God's**



If you have very young children in your class, let them simply find and touch StoryBoard items such as the lamp stand, the stones, and the broom instead of doing the activity as written. Repeat the Bible Point often, and let children hold the Bible.

book. Hold up your Bible. **Let's pass God's book to each other. Hold it gently. We want to take care of God's book.** Help children pass the Bible to each other.

Then King Josiah stood by the pillar of the Temple. **Let's point to the pillar that we set up.** Choose a child to point to the pillar. Josiah promised to do everything God's book said to do. **Josiah loved God. Cross your hands over your heart to show how much you love God. Josiah knew that** ► *the Bible is God's book*, so he obeyed God. **I'm glad that** ► *the Bible is God's book*—it's the best book of all! Let's learn a song about the Bible.



BIBLE POINT ►



Important: Put the StoryBoard away and out of reach of children.

■ *The Bible Is True*

SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player



Using the CD (track 9), lead the children in singing “The Bible Is True” to the tune of “Ten Little Indians.” Let children pass the Bible to one another as you sing.



SING

**The Bible is God's Word,
Yes it is.
The Bible is God's Word,
Yes it is.
The Bible is God's Word,
Yes it is.
The Bible came from God.**

**The Bible is true,
Oh, yes it is.
The Bible is true,
Oh, yes it is.
The Bible is true,
Oh, yes it is.
The Bible came from God.**

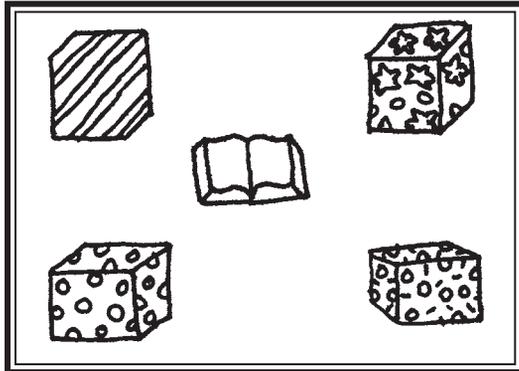
(Repeat from the beginning.)

Say: **The Bible is a wonderful gift from God. Let's have Cuddles help us make a bulletin board full of gifts.**

Bible Activities

■ Interactive Bible Bulletin Board

SUPPLIES: Bible, blue construction paper, tape or stapler, gift and Bible patterns (p. 154), scissors



Before class begins, cover the bulletin board with blue construction paper. Make photocopies of the gift patterns. Be sure to have one gift pattern for each child. You'll also need one photocopy of the Bible pattern. Cut out the patterns.

Lead children to the bulletin board, and bring out Cuddles the Lamb. Go through the following script, and then put Cuddles out of sight.

Cuddles: Hi! Do you know how I got my name? I like to cuddle and snuggle. Can I give each of you a cuddle? (*Have Cuddles hug each child.*)

Teacher: Hugs are nice gifts, Cuddles. Thank you. We've been learning about another wonderful gift—the Bible! (*Hold up the Bible.*) ► The Bible is God's book, and God gave us the Bible. (*Tape the picture of the Bible to the center of the bulletin board.*) Would you like to help us make a bulletin board, Cuddles?

Cuddles: Yes, I like being a helper.

Have Cuddles hand each child a picture of a gift. Help children tape their gifts to the bulletin board. Be sure to tape the gifts at the top of each paper pattern so that next week they can be lifted up. As children tape their gifts in place, help them say, "Thank you for the Bible, God."

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When the gifts are in place, ask:

- **Who gave us the Bible?** (God.)

Say: **God gave us the Bible because he loves us. Let's blow a kiss to God to tell him we love him.** Lead children in blowing a kiss upward. **I'm so happy that ► the Bible is God's book. Why don't we sing a song to tell God thank you for the Bible?**



■ Sing It Out

SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player



Using the CD (track 9), lead the children in singing “The Bible Is True” to the tune of “Ten Little Indians.” Let children pass the Bible to one another as you sing.



**The Bible is God’s Word,
Yes it is.
The Bible is God’s Word,
Yes it is.
The Bible is God’s Word,
Yes it is.
The Bible came from God.**

**The Bible is true,
Oh, yes it is.
The Bible is true,
Oh, yes it is.
The Bible is true,
Oh, yes it is.
The Bible came from God.**

(Repeat from the beginning.)

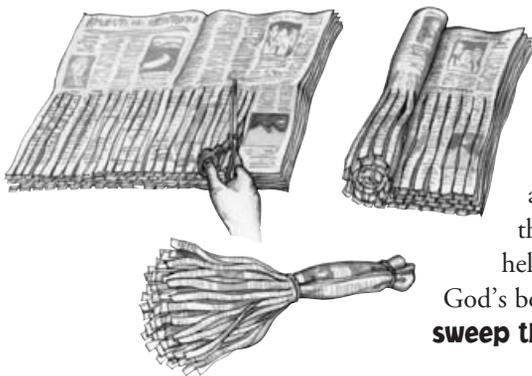


BIBLE POINT ▶

Say: ▶ ***The Bible is God’s book***, and Josiah’s helpers found the Bible when they were cleaning the Temple. Let’s make brooms so we can sweep and clean, just as the king’s helpers did.

■ Bible Craft

SUPPLIES: newspapers, paper clips, rubber bands, scissors



Before class place six sheets of newspaper in a pile for each child. Secure each stack of papers with a paper clip. Then make a series of cuts along the bottom edge of the newspaper stacks, cutting halfway up.

Help children roll the paper stacks into broom shapes. Wrap rubber bands around the “handles” to secure them. Then remove the paper clips and set them out of children’s reach. Invite children to sweep the floor with their brooms. Remind them that God wanted his house clean and that the helpers cleaned house and found a surprise. Tell them that the surprise was God’s book and that ▶ ***the Bible is God’s book***. Say: **We’ll sing a helping song and sweep the floor. Then we’ll be busy bees!**

■ Bible Game

SUPPLIES: dishpan, cup of flour, paper brooms from previous activity, piece of paper, rubber band, newspapers



Before class, put the flour into the plastic dishpan. Also, make sure all of the *rubbing plates* are cut apart.

Spread old newspapers on the floor, and have the children sit on them in a circle on the floor.

Without using the CD, lead the children in singing “The Sweeping Song” twice to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat.” Encourage them to use their brooms to act out the verses.



SING

**Sweep, sweep, sweep the floor.
Be a busy bee!
Help awhile, and bring a smile
To friends and family.**

**Sweep, sweep, sweep the floor.
Be a busy bee!
Help awhile, and bring a smile
To friends and family.**

Say: **God wanted Josiah and his helpers to find the Bible because God loves us and wants us to know his words. He knows we need the Bible to help us. I’m glad that ►the Bible is God’s book and that God gave us the Bible. You know, a long time ago, people didn’t have Bibles that look like the ones we have today. They wrote God’s words on big pieces of paper, and then rolled the papers up to keep them clean and safe. They called those rolled-up papers *scrolls*.**

Hold the piece of paper up for them to see, roll it up, and loosely place a rubber band around it. Then hand each child a *rubbing plate* and encourage them to feel the raised outlines.

Ask: • **What kinds of things are on your *rubbing plates*?** (Birds; fish; hands.)

Say: **God made all of these things and gave them to us to enjoy, and he tells us about them in the Bible! God also gave us Jesus. Jesus loves us so much that he gave us the Bible to tell us about his big heart of love. ►The Bible is God’s book. God gave us the Bible because he loves us. This paper we rolled up looks kind of like the scrolls the words of the Bible used to be written on.**

Choose a child to hide the “scroll” somewhere in the classroom. He or she could hide the scroll behind a chair, large toy, in a cubby, or in a cupboard.

Ask: • **Have you ever lost a toy?** (Yes; no.)

• **How did you feel when you couldn’t find it?** (Sad; mad.)

Say: **Before Josiah became king, the people put God’s Word away. They stopped reading it and forgot all about it. This made God very sad when he saw that everything was dusty, dirty, and God’s words of love were lost.**



Bring out the dishpan with the flour. Take the pan around to each child, and have him or her scoop up small amounts of flour with their fingers, and sprinkle it on the *rubbing plate*.

Say: **When Josiah became king, he found that the Temple where people worshipped God was a dirty mess, just like our *rubbing plates*.**

Ask: • **What do we do when our classroom is a mess?** (Clean it up; pick up our toys.)

Say: **That's right. King Josiah and his helpers began to clean up the Temple.**

Invite the children to take turns using the brooms they made in the last activity to dust off the *rubbing plates*. Then let kids find the scroll in the classroom. Have the children bring you the scroll and each of their clean *rubbing plates*.

Say: **You did a good job cleaning off the plates, just as Josiah's helpers cleaned the Temple and found God's Word. ► The Bible is God's book. King Josiah loved God and his Word, the Bible.** Hold up the scroll.

Ask: • **What did King Josiah's helpers find in the Temple?** (A mess; dirt; the Bible; a scroll.)

• **Who loves us and gave us the Bible?** (God; Jesus.)



Say: **God loves us. God wrote his words of love for us in the Bible. ► The Bible is God's book. The Bible tells us about Jesus, God's Son. It's important to learn about Jesus so we can believe in him. Then we can live with him in heaven someday. I'm so glad God gave us the Bible so we can learn about Jesus!**

Place all of the *rubbing plates* back in the Learning Lab.

Say: **Now let's sweep our way to the wall and set our brooms there until later.**



Closing

■ The Good Gift

SUPPLIES: Bible, graham crackers, napkins, cream cheese, plastic knives

Have the children sit in a circle. Hold up the Bible and say: **The Bible is the best book there is. It's a gift from God, and we want to take care of it. Let's pass the Bible carefully to each other. We'll give the Bible pats or hugs to show how much we love God's Word.** Pass the Bible around the circle. As each child hugs or pats the Bible, help him or her say, "I like the Bible." Then set the Bible aside.

► **The Bible is God's book, and he gave it to us. The Bible is a gift from God. Let's make yummy pretend Bibles to eat.**

Have children wash their hands. Hand each child a graham cracker on a napkin. Help children use plastic knives to spread cream cheese "pages" between the graham cracker "covers" of their edible "books." Before children eat, say: **Fold your hands,**

and we'll thank God for his special gift. Pray: **Dear God, thank you for the Bible. In Jesus' name, amen.**

After children have enjoyed their snacks, remind them to take their paper brooms home with them.



Growing closer to Jesus extends beyond the classroom.

Photocopy the "Parent Page" handout (p. 142) for this module, and send it home with your children. Encourage parents to use the handout to plan meaningful family activities to reinforce this module's topic.



For Extra Time

If you have a long class time or want to add additional elements to your lesson, try one of the following activities.

■ **Crumble Dough**

Set out place mats and modeling dough. Invite children to crumble the dough into small pieces on their place mats. Show them how to use a blob of modeling dough to pick up the crumbs on the place mats. Point out that the dough picks up the mess on the table just as Josiah's helpers picked up the mess in the Temple. Remind children that the helpers found God's book and that ► *the Bible is God's book.*

■ **Clean Sweep**

Let children use the brooms they made in the Bible Craft to sweep paper wads to the wastebasket (or recycling bin). Your toddlers will enjoy crumpling sheets of newspaper and scattering them around the floor to sweep up and throw away.

Patterns

Cut loosely around each pattern instead of cutting exactly on the outlines.

