

Unit 1

I Am Happy at Church

Bible Words

“I am happy at church”
(based on Psalm 122:1).

Possible Responses by Children During Unit 1

Children will

- know that they can sing and pray at church.
- know that they can learn about Jesus at church.
- begin to understand that they have friends at church.
- smile and/or clap hands; be happy to be at church.
- sing or listen to songs about being at church.
- become familiar with the words *church* and *I am happy at church*.
- say “I am happy at church.”

Especially for Older 2s and Younger 3s!

If you are teaching older 2s and/or younger 3s, you may want to use the Bonus Unit titled “Jesus Is the Son of God” on the CD for one of the other units. One of the lessons is “Jesus Is Alive!”

Special Needs Helps

Look for this symbol to identify activities that work well for all children, including those with special needs. Additional helps can be found in the Special Needs folder and the Unit 1 folder on the *Classroom Pack* CD and at www.21stcc.com.



Online Helps

See the introductory pages for information about downloads that are available.



Lesson	Scripture	Focus
Lesson 1 I Sing at Church	Psalm 122:1	♥ I sing at church.
Lesson 2 I Pray at Church	Psalm 122:1	♥ I pray at church.
Lesson 3 I Learn About Jesus at Church	Psalm 122:1	♥ I learn about Jesus at church.
Lesson 4 I Have Friends at Church	Psalm 122:1	♥ I have friends at church.

Bible Background for the Teacher

Psalm 122:1 is one of the many psalms King David wrote. David wrote this psalm as a hymn of joy upon entering Jerusalem. As was the case with many of the psalms, these words were intended to be sung. Hebrews 10:25 reminds us not to give up coming together for the purpose of worship and study. Our meeting together should be a time to encourage each other, to “spur one another on toward love and good deeds” (Hebrews 10:24).

You can help the little hearts you teach begin to understand that coming together for worship and study can and should be a happy time. How pleased God must be to see the children’s smiles. How happy God must be to hear their giggles and hear their little voices praise Him. Church is a happy place!

Immerse Materials for Unit 1

Toddlers & 2s Teacher’s Classroom Pack CD

Audio Tracks

- “Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible” (track 1)
- “I Am Happy at Church” (track 2)
- Car Sounds (track 8)
- Phone Sounds (track 9)
- Optional—Active Songs (tracks 11 and 12)
- Optional—Quiet Songs (tracks 13 and 14)

Printable Files

- Easels, Family Letter (unit 1); *Family Together Time* take-homes (lessons 1–4); Praying Children (lesson 2); Church Building, Jesus Head (lesson 3)

Visuals

unit 1 poster (sheet 1); church building, unit 1 mobile pictures (sheet 3); Jesus figure, Bible figures, peekaboo pictures, matching pictures of children (sheet 4); song poster (sheet 5); *I Am Happy at Church!* board book

Teddy the bear puppet

Save visuals and props you have created for classroom use—whether made from items in the *Classroom Pack* or from other materials. A number of these can be reused throughout any given unit.

Bible Time Story for Unit 1

Focus

♥ I am happy at church.

Bible Words

"I am happy at church" (based on Psalm 122:1).

Before Class

Cover the church building figure with clear adhesive covering. Print easels from the CD and attach them to the back of the church building. Put the Jesus figure in the Bible.



Read Special Needs Tips in the CD Special Needs folder for how to use Bible Time with children who have special needs.

I Am Happy at Church (longer version)

Based on Psalm 122:1

The Bible Time story, "I Am Happy at Church," can be told in two ways: (1) Use the shorter stories printed within the weekly lessons, or (2) Tell the story in its entirety each week. The entire story is printed below.

Bible Time can be done in a variety of ways. You can do Bible Time:

- with individual children.
- with a few children at a time on carpet squares.
- with children in chairs at a table.
- with children at a table with built-in seats or clip-on chairs.
- in your own creative way.

Encourage children to sing the songs with you. Ask other teachers and helpers to sing too! The song "Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible" is recorded on the CD.

Materials

Teddy the bear puppet, hand mirror, Bible, CD track 1, CD player, 2 baby dolls, sheet 3 church building figure, CD easels printable file, clear adhesive covering, clear tape, empty glue bottle, sheet 4 Jesus figure

Sing this song several times as each child pets or hugs Teddy:

(tune: "The Farmer in the Dell")

I like to go to church.

I like to go to church.

With all the other boys and girls,

I like to go to church.

At the end of the song, clap and ask everyone to clap. SAY: **We're glad to be at church! We're glad you're at church today.** Hold the mirror in front of each child. **We're so glad ___ is at church today. And we're so glad ___ is at church today.** Do this with each child, using each child's name.

Show your Bible and ASK: **What is this?** Encourage verbal children to say "Bible." SAY: **We love our Bible. Let's pat our Bible.** Hold the Bible in front of each child. Let each child pat the Bible while singing "Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible" several times:

(tune: "Did You Ever See a Lassie?")

Oh, I love to pat the Bible,

The Bible, the Bible.

Oh, I love to pat the Bible,

For it is God's Word.

SAY: **The Bible tells us that church is a happy place.** Show children the baby doll. **This little girl is ready to go to church. She likes to go to church.** Let children touch and hold the doll while singing this song:

(tune: "The Farmer in the Dell")

I am happy at church.

I am happy at church.

I can sing at my church.

I am happy at church.

Stand up the church building figure. SAY: **The little girl is going to church.** Walk the doll to the church building. **She is happy at church. She likes to sing at church. We can sing at church too.** Sing "Jesus Loves Me" or another familiar song. Clap hands and encourage children to clap their hands and verbal children to sing with you.

SAY: **Church is such a happy place. We can sing at church.** Encourage children to sing this song:

(tune: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

I can sing at church.

I can sing at church.

I can sing at church.

I can sing at church.

Stand up the church building and put the baby doll beside it. SAY: **The little girl is happy at church. She likes to pray at church. We can pray at church too. It's good to fold our hands when we pray. I'm going to put some special "glue" on my hands to help me fold them.** Take the glue bottle and pretend to glue your hands together. Show children your folded hands.

SAY: **I'm going to put some special glue on your hands to help you fold your hands.** Touch each child's hands with the glue bottle and pretend to put on some special glue while singing this song:

(tune: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

**I can pray at church.
I can pray at church.
I can pray at church.
I can pray at church.**

Stand up the church building and put the baby doll beside it. SAY: **The little girl is happy at church. She likes to learn about Jesus at church. We can learn about Jesus at church too. Can you find the picture of Jesus in the Bible?** Help each child find the Jesus figure in the Bible while singing this song:

(tune: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

**I can learn at church.
I can learn at church.
I can learn at church.
I can learn at church.**

Stand up the church building and put the baby doll beside it. SAY: **The little girl is happy at church. She has friends at church.** Put another baby doll by the first one. **This is one of her friends. Do you have friends at church?** Allow verbal children to respond. **I'm glad that we have friends at church.** Let children hold the baby dolls while singing this song:

(tune: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

**I have friends at church.
I have friends at church.
I have friends at church.
I have friends at church.**

SAY: **The Bible says that you** (point to children) **are happy at church and** ♥ **I** (point to self) **am happy at church. Yay!** Clap hands and encourage children to clap their hands. **Who is happy at church?** Encourage verbal children to say the Bible Words with you.

Hold the mirror in front of each child as you SAY: ♥ **You can be happy at church, ____.** Do this with each child, using each child's name.

Fold your hands and encourage children to fold their hands. PRAY: **Dear God, thank You that we can be happy at church. In Jesus' name, amen.** Encourage verbal children to say "thank You" or "God."

Have Teddy say good-bye as each child pets or hugs the puppet.

TEACHING TODDLERS ABOUT THE CHURCH

Your toddlers are the ultimate concrete thinkers. Their minds have not yet developed to the point that they can grasp abstract concepts such as the church is the people rather than the building. For this reason, the curriculum attempts to help toddlers have positive feelings about being "at church." We will begin to introduce the abstract side of this teaching in Preschool and Pre-K/K and complete the concept in Early Elementary when their brains are ready to process this idea. We believe this is what age-appropriate teaching is all about.

The goal of teaching the Bible to toddlers is to build a solid foundation for future teaching. We want toddlers to love God, love Jesus, love their parents, and love "going to church." In time, we hope they will love "being the church."

Activities for Babies 12 Months and Younger

Unit 1

If there are no babies in your class, copy and give this to a teacher who will use these activities with babies.

Scripture: Psalm 122:1

Focus: ♥ I am happy at church.

Bible Words: “I am happy at church” (based on Psalm 122:1).

Possible Responses by Babies: Babies will feel happy to be at church, smile, and listen to songs about being at church.

Use these activities with individual babies to help them explore the theme, ♥ I am happy at church. Some of these activities can also be found on the sheet 2 poster in the *Toddlers & 2s Teacher’s Classroom Pack*.

Hello God Time Pat the Bible

Help each baby pat the Bible and open the Bible as you SAY:

This is my Bible. I’ll open it wide.

And read the words written inside:

♥ “I am happy at church!”

Floor Time Roll a Ball

Roll the ball to a baby while you SAY:

Roll the ball to baby. Roll the ball again.

Roll the ball to baby. Roll it, yes, you can!

Encourage the baby to push the ball back to you. SAY: **We can play together at church. ♥ We are happy at church!**

Hug and Hold Time “Happy at Church”

Hold a baby in your lap. Sing the following words to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell.” While singing, place your hands around the baby’s hands and gently clap them together.

♥ I am happy at church.

I am happy at church.

I *can sing at my church.

I am happy at church.

(*can pray, can learn, have friends)

Hug and Hold Time You’re My Friend

Hold a baby in your lap. SAY: **Here’s my friend ____.** I’m happy that **you’re here at church today.** Make fun sounds, such as saying “do, do, do, do, do” while going up and down the scale, clicking your tongue, or saying “swish, swish, swish.” You can also make some fun animal sounds. **I’m glad we can have fun, ____!** ♥ **We are happy at church!**

Materials
Bible



Materials
soft ball



When determining what activities to do with babies, take cues from the babies as to their abilities and preferences. Some babies prefer to be held, while others do not.

I Sing at Church

Lesson 1



Scripture: Psalm 122:1












Focus: ♥ I sing at church.

Bible Words: “I am happy at church” (based on Psalm 122:1).

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

Do you ever find yourself singing as the day goes along? Stop a moment and think about how you are feeling at that time. You feel happy and have joy in your heart. God has given us many ways to connect with Him, and singing is one of them. Young children may not know many words to songs, but they can hear the rhythm, feel the beat, and see the smile on your face as you sing. Help the children begin to connect to God through the wonderful gift of song.

Lesson 1 at a Glance

<p>ACTIVITY TIME Use one or more of these activities to help children <i>explore the theme, I sing at church</i>. Note: You can find the CD, visual sheets, and board books in the <i>Toddlers & 2s Teacher’s Classroom Pack</i>.</p>	<p>First Hour Unit 1 Activities poster, books and puzzles, song</p> <p> Jump for Joy Mobile</p> <p> A Joyful Noise</p>	<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sheet 1 unit 1 poster, sheet 5 song poster, <i>I Am Happy at Church!</i> book, books and puzzles, CD, CD player, clear adhesive covering • sheet 3 unit 1 mobile pictures, yarn, hole punch • CD, CD player 	<p>Extra Hour Unit 1 Activity Walking to Church</p> <p> “I Like to Sing at Church”</p> <p></p>	<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • masking tape, sheet 3 church building, CD, CD player • CD <i>Family Together Time</i> issue 1 printable file
<p>BIBLE TIME Help children <i>know that we sing at church</i>.</p>	<p>Bible Time can be done several ways and whenever best fits your schedule. If you do the longer Bible Time story, you will need more items.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teddy the bear puppet, hand mirror, Bible, CD track 1 and easels printable file, CD player, baby doll, sheet 3 church building, musical instruments, clear tape 	<p>Bible Time can be done several ways. If you do one of the other story options, you will need different items.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teddy the bear puppet, hand mirror, Bible, CD, CD player, <i>I Am Happy at Church!</i> book
<p>DISCOVERY TIME Use one or more of these activities to help children <i>continue exploring the theme, I sing at church</i>.</p>	<p> Driving to Church</p> <p> Putting the Babies to Bed</p> <p> Sing and March</p> <p>Saying Good-bye or Transition to Extra Hour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • toy cars and other vehicles, CD, CD player, sheet 3 church building • baby dolls, blankets, baby bed • CD, CD player • toy phones, blocks, CD <i>Family Together Time</i> issue 1 printable file 	<p> Puppet Fun Teddy Likes to Sing</p> <p> Singing with Streamers</p> <p> Peekaboo Pictures</p> <p> Singing Tubes</p> <p>Saying Good-bye</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teddy the bear puppet • crepe-paper streamers, scissors, CD, CD player • sheet 4 unit 1 peekaboo pictures of children, glue, poster board • address labels, marker, paper towel tubes, stickers • CD <i>Family Together Time</i> issue 1 printable file

Activity Time (25–30 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **explore the theme, I sing at church.**

Focus

♥ I sing at church.

Welcome

- Welcome each child by name.
- Do check-in procedures you follow (name and security tags, etc.).
- Play songs softly in the background (Optional—tracks 13 and 14).
- Lead each child to an activity.

Unit 1 Activities

Use these activities anytime during your session. Children will enjoy doing them each week.

Poster: Before class, cover the unit 1 poster with clear adhesive covering and display it in your room. Ask children to point to the child who is singing. SAY: **It's fun to sing at church.**

Books and puzzles: Use the *I Am Happy at Church!* book and other books and puzzles that show children at church. You may want to cover the book with clear adhesive covering. Look at books with interested children and help children do puzzles. Talk about how church is a happy place.

“I Am Happy at Church” song: Before class, display the unit 1 song poster in your room. Play “I Am Happy at Church” from the CD. Sing with individual children or small groups of children. Encourage children to clap their hands and sing along.

Jump for Joy Mobile

Before class, press out the pictures of children. Punch a hole in each picture. Tie with yarn and hang as a mobile from the ceiling in your room. Or hang them from the dowel rod to hold above the children's heads. Leave the mobile up during unit 1.

Encourage the children to look at the pictures and jump up or reach high for them. Or you can hold children up to the pictures so they can touch them. SAY: **Look, there's a boy. He's happy at church.** Sing the following to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell.” Encourage verbal children to sing with you. **I am happy at church. I am happy at church. I am very happy. I am happy at church.**

1s will look up, jump, and reach for the pictures.

2s will do the above and sing the Bible Words.

A Joyful Noise

SAY: ♥ **We can sing at church and be happy. Let's sing!** Play the song “I Am Happy at Church.” Encourage verbal children to sing with you. You can also march around the room while singing the song, inviting the children to follow you. **I'm glad ♥ I can sing at church. I am happy at church!**

1s will listen to the song.

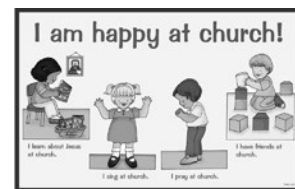
2s will possibly march around the room while singing some of the song.

Bible Words

“I am happy at church”
(based on Psalm 122:1).

Materials

sheet 1 unit 1 poster, sheet 5 song poster, *I Am Happy at Church!* book, books and puzzles, CD track 2, CD player, clear adhesive covering



Materials

sheet 3 unit 1 mobile pictures, yarn, hole punch (optional: dowel rod)



Add pictures of children from your class to the mobile to help children who have trouble identifying themselves with their peers.

Materials

CD track 2, CD player



Offer behind-the-head earmuffs or noise-canceling headphones for children who experience noise sensitivity.

Transition to Bible Time

- Use a cleanup song or signal to transition to Bible Time.

Focus

♥ I sing at church.

Bible Time (shorter version: 5-10 minutes)

Use this Bible Time or the longer version found on the unit 1 pages to help children **know that we sing at church**.

Materials

Teddy the bear puppet, hand mirror, Bible, CD track 1, CD player, baby doll, sheet 3 church building, CD easels printable file (or paper towel tubes), clear tape (optional: clear adhesive covering)



Before Class

Print easels from the CD and attach them to the back of the church building. Or you can attach paper towel tubes to the back of the church building. You may want to cover the church building figure with clear adhesive covering before attaching the easels.

Tips About Bible Time

Encourage verbal children and other helpers to sing the songs with you!

The song "Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible" is recorded on the CD.

Call Teddy by name. Children will love to hear the name of their puppet friend!



Read Special Needs Tips in the CD Special Needs folder for how to use Bible Time with children who have special needs.

Read Show Me the Church in the CD Unit 1 Special Needs Helps file for ideas you can use to help children with special needs understand more about the church.

After children have gathered for Bible Time, sing this song several times as each child pets or hugs Teddy:

(tune: "The Farmer in the Dell")

I like to go to church. I like to go to church.

With all the other boys and girls,

I like to go to church.

At the end of the song, clap and ask everyone to clap. SAY: **We're so glad to be at church! We're glad you're at church today!** Hold the mirror in front of each child. **We're so glad ___ is at church today. And we're so glad ___ is at church today.** Do with each child, using each child's name.

Show your Bible and ASK: **What is this?** Children should say "Bible." **We love our Bible. It tells us about God. Let's pat our Bible.** Hold the Bible in front of each child. Let each pat the Bible while singing "Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible" (track 1) several times:

(tune: "Did You Ever See a Lassie?")

Oh, I love to pat the Bible, the Bible, the Bible.

Oh, I love to pat the Bible, for it is God's Word.

The Bible tells us that church is a happy place. Show children the baby doll. **This little girl is ready to go to church. She likes to go to church.** Let children touch and hold the doll while singing this song:

(tune: "The Farmer in the Dell")

I am happy at church. I am happy at church.

I can sing at my church.

I am happy at church.

Stand up the church building. **The little girl is going to church.** Walk the doll to the church building. **She is happy at church. She likes to sing at church. ♥ We can sing at church too.** Sing "Jesus Loves Me" or another familiar song. Clap hands and encourage children to clap their hands and verbal children to sing with you.

Church is such a happy place. ♥ We can sing at church. Encourage children to sing this song:

(tune: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

I can sing at church. I can sing at church.

I can sing at church. I can sing at church.

The Bible says that you (point to children) **are happy at church and I** (point to self) **am happy at church. Yay!** Clap hands. **Who is happy at church?** Encourage verbal children to say the Bible Words with you. Hold the mirror in front of each child as you SAY: ♥ **You can sing at church, ___.** PRAY: **Dear God, thank You that we can sing at church. In Jesus' name, amen.** Encourage verbal children to say "thank You" or "God." Have Teddy say good-bye as each child pets or hugs the puppet.

Discovery Time (15–20 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **continue exploring the theme, I sing at church.**

Focus

♥ I sing at church.

Driving to Church

Allow children to play with toy cars and other vehicles. Let them play on a road rug if you have one. Play the car sounds from the CD. Set up the church building at one end of the rug or play area. SAY: **It's time to go to church. Let's drive our cars to church.** Point to the church building. Drive a car to the church building and invite the children to drive their cars to the church building also. SAY: **Here we are at church. Church is such a happy place! ♥ I can sing at church!** Sing a favorite song and encourage children to sing with you.

1s will enjoy playing with the cars and listening to the song.

2s will do the above and may sing along.

Putting the Babies to Bed

Let children play with baby dolls. Rock a baby doll in your arms and SAY: **The baby doll is sleepy. Let's sing her to sleep.** Sing a quiet song. **Can you help put the babies to sleep?** Guide the children to put blankets over them and rock the dolls or lay them in the bed. You can sing quiet songs and encourage verbal children to sing songs to their dolls too. You could also play some quiet songs from the CD. **I like to sing to the baby dolls. I'm glad ♥ I can sing at church.**

1s will hold or rock baby dolls and put them in bed.

2s will do the above and possibly sing to the baby dolls.

Sing and March

SAY: **I like to sing at church.** Sing a song. **♥ I can sing at church while I march.** Show children how to sing and march. SAY: **♥ I sing at church. I can march and sing!** Play Track 2 from the CD and invite children to march and verbal children to sing along.

1s will march with you.

2s will do the above and may sing.

Saying Good-bye

For children who are leaving, give parents craft activities and copies of *Family Together Time* issue 1 from the CD. Tell parents something their children enjoyed. Tell each child, **Good-bye. See you next time!** Note: *Family Together Time* is also available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

*Quiet Songs, Active Songs

The quiet songs and active songs on the CD are intended to capture the attention of the Toddlers and create a mood (much like the musical mobile over a baby bed). They are not worship songs or to be used in worship-related activities. They are optional to this activity and all similar activities this quarter. If you are uncomfortable with these songs, feel free to omit them or substitute songs of your own choosing.

Materials

toy cars and other vehicles, CD track 8, CD player, sheet 3 church building (optional: road rug)



Read Drive Me Crazy in the CD Unit 1 Special Needs Helps file to adapt this activity for children who have special needs.

Materials

baby dolls, blankets, baby bed (*optional: CD tracks 13 and 14, CD player)



Materials

CD tracks 2, CD player



Transition to Extra Hour

- Have at least one adult greet new children and at least one adult engage children in activities away from the door.
- Continue Discovery Time choices children are enjoying.
- Let children play with toy phones. Call a child on a phone and SAY: **Come to church with me. ♥ We sing at church.**
- As children play with blocks or balls, SAY: **Church is such a happy place!**

Focus

♥ I sing at church.

Extra Hour Activity and Bible Time

(25–35 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **explore the theme, I sing at church.**

Bible Words

“I am happy at church”
(based on Psalm 122:1).

Materials

masking tape, sheet 3
church building, CD,
CD player



Materials

CD *Family Together Time*
issue 1 printable file



Materials

Teddy the bear puppet,
hand mirror, Bible, CD
tracks 1 and 2, CD player, *I Am
Happy at Church!* book



Tips About Bible Time

Encourage verbal children and other helpers to sing the songs with you!

The songs “Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible” and “I Am Happy at Church” are recorded on the CD.

Call Teddy by name. Children will love to hear the name of their furry friend!



Read Special Needs Tips in the CD Special Needs folder for how to use Bible Time with children who have special needs.

Welcome

- Welcome new children by name.
- Do check-in procedures you follow (name and security tags, etc.).
- Check and change diapers and/or have restroom time.

Unit 1 Activity Walking to Church

Before class, make a line on the floor with the tape. Put the church building at one end. Invite children to walk on the line to church. SAY: **I like to go to church. ♥ We can sing at church!** Sing songs about Jesus while walking.

“I Like to Sing at Church”

Sing the song from *Family Together Time*. Invite children to clap their hands with you. Use a cleanup song or signal and transition to Bible Time.

Bible Time

Use this Bible Time, the one from first hour, or the longer version found on the unit pages.

Sing this song several times as each child pets or hugs Teddy:
(tune: “The Farmer in the Dell”)

I like to go to church. I like to go to church.

With all the other boys and girls, I like to go to church.

Clap and ask everyone to clap. **We’re so glad to be at church! We’re glad you’re at church today! Hold the mirror in front of each child. We’re so glad ___ is at church today. And we’re so glad ___ is at church today.**

Show your Bible and ASK: **What is this?** Children should say “Bible.” **We love our Bible. It tells us about God. Let’s pat our Bible.** Hold the Bible in front of each child. Let each pat the Bible while singing “Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible” (track 1) several times:

(tune: “Did You Ever See a Lassie?”)

Oh, I love to pat the Bible, the Bible, the Bible.

Oh, I love to pat the Bible, for it is God’s Word.

Read *I Am Happy at Church!*, showing the pictures as you read. Then sing “I Am Happy at Church” (track 2). Encourage children to clap:
(tune: “If You’re Happy and You Know It”; also sing—**I can sing.*)

I am happy at church, *I’ll clap my hands.

I am happy at church, *I’ll clap my hands.

I am happy at church. I am happy at church.

I am happy at church, *I’ll clap my hands.

The Bible tells us that you (point to children) **are happy at church and I** (point to self) **am happy at church. Who is happy at church?** Encourage children to say the Bible Words. Hold the mirror in front of each child as you SAY: ♥ **You can sing at church, ___.** PRAY: **Dear God, thank You that we can sing at church. In Jesus’ name, amen.** Have Teddy say good-bye.

Extra Hour Discovery Time (20–25 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **continue exploring the theme, I sing at church.**

Focus

♥ I sing at church.

Puppet Fun Teddy Likes to Sing

Take Teddy to individual children or small groups of children. SAY: **Hi! My name is Teddy. Do you know one thing I like to do at church? I like to sing!** Have Teddy sing a song about Jesus that your children will know. ASK: **Do you like to sing?** Have Teddy sing the song again and encourage verbal children to sing along. **I liked singing with you. It's fun to sing at church!**

Singing with Streamers

Before class, cut crepe-paper streamers approximately 2' in length (or gather long scarves).

Give each child a streamer. Play songs from the CD and sing along. Demonstrate how to wave the streamers as the songs play. SAY: **♥ I like to sing at church. Let's sing and wave our streamers.** Encourage the children to wave their streamers and verbal children to sing along.

1s will enjoy waving the streamers.

2s will do the above and sing.

Peekaboo Pictures

Before class, press out the pictures, fold on the dotted lines so the pictures are inside, and glue the folded pictures to the poster board.

Put the poster board on the floor or on a table and encourage a child to lift a flap and look at the hidden picture. ASK: **Is the girl happy? Encourage verbal children to respond. We are happy here at church. Is the boy happy? He likes to read about Jesus at church. ♥ I read about Jesus at church too.** Point to yourself and SAY: **I am happy at church.** Ask children to point to themselves and verbal children to say the Bible Words with you.

1s will enjoy lifting the flaps and looking at the pictures.

2s will do the above, respond to questions, and say the Bible Words.

Singing Tubes

Before class, print ♥ "I sing at church" on address labels.

Hold a paper tube up to your mouth and sing through it. SAY: **I like to sing at church. I like to sing about Jesus.** Let the children press stickers onto the tubes. Help each child press on a label as you SAY: **♥ I sing at church.** ASK: **Can you sing at church? Let's sing a song about Jesus.** Show children how to hold the tubes up to their mouths and sing through them. Use the tubes to sing with the children a happy song about Jesus.

1s will press on stickers and labels and may hold the tubes up to their mouths.

2s will do the above and try singing through the tubes.

Saying Good-bye

Give parents copies of *Family Together Time* issue 1 from the CD and craft activities their children may have done. Tell each child, **Good-bye. See you next week!**

Materials

Teddy the bear puppet



Children with special needs may identify with Teddy as the recurring character. Use him during a transition time that seems particularly difficult.

Materials

crepe-paper streamers (or long scarves), scissors, CD, CD player



Materials

sheet 4 unit 1 peekaboo pictures of children, glue, poster board



The predictability of this activity makes it fun for children who crave routine and feel safe when they know what is going to happen next!

Materials

address labels, marker, paper towel tubes, stickers



NOTE: *Family Together Time* is also available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

I Pray at Church

Lesson 2



Scripture: Psalm 122:1











Focus: ♥ I pray at church.

Bible Words: “I am happy at church” (based on Psalm 122:1).

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

Think about how much you enjoy talking with good friends. The conversation just naturally flows, and you can catch up on news, even if you haven’t spoken in a while. If you’re happy, they are happy for you. If you’re feeling blue, you can confide in them and know they will sympathize with you. Prayer is talking to our best friend, God. Even if it’s been awhile, He is right there, waiting for your call. Help the children begin to understand that prayer is talking to their best friend!

Lesson 2 at a Glance

<p>ACTIVITY TIME Use one or more of these activities to help children <i>explore the theme, I pray at church</i>. Note: You can find the CD, visual sheets, and board books in the <i>Toddlers & 2s Teacher’s Classroom Pack</i>.</p>	<p>First Hour Unit 1 Activities poster, books and puzzles, song</p> <p> Fun with Blocks</p> <p> Look What I Can Do</p>	<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sheet 1 unit 1 poster, sheet 5 song poster, <i>I Am Happy at Church!</i> book, books and puzzles, CD, CD player • large blocks 	<p>Extra Hour Unit 1 Activity Walking to Church</p> <p> “I Fold My Hands”</p>	<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • masking tape, sheet 3 church building • CD <i>Family Together Time</i> issue 2 printable file
<p>BIBLE TIME Help children <i>know that we pray at church</i>.</p>	<p>Bible Time can be done several ways and whenever best fits your schedule. If you do the longer Bible Time story, you will need more items.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hand mirror, Bible, CD, CD player, baby doll, sheet 3 church building, empty glue bottle 	<p>Bible Time can be done several ways. If you do one of the other story options, you will need different items.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hand mirror, Bible, CD, CD player, <i>I Am Happy at Church!</i> book
<p>DISCOVERY TIME Use one or more of these activities to help children <i>continue exploring the theme, I pray at church</i>.</p>	<p> Calling All Friends</p> <p> Going to Church</p> <p> Praying Children</p> <p>Saying Good-bye or Transition to Extra Hour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • real or toy phones, CD, CD player • riding and push/pull toys, CD, CD player • CD Praying Children coloring page printable file, large crayons, happy face stickers • blocks, modeling dough, CD <i>Family Together Time</i> issue 2 printable file 	<p> Puppet Fun You Can Pray</p> <p> Getting Babies Ready</p> <p> Peekaboo Pictures</p> <p> Praying Hands</p> <p>Saying Good-bye</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teddy the bear puppet • toy food, baby dolls and bottles, washcloths, sheet 3 church building • peekaboo picture board from lesson 1 • construction paper, large crayons, stickers • CD <i>Family Together Time</i> issue 2 printable file

Activity Time (25–30 minutes)

Focus

♥ I pray at church.

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **explore the theme, I pray at church.**

Welcome

- Welcome each child by name.
- Do check-in procedures you follow (name and security tags, etc.).
- Play songs softly in the background (Optional—tracks 13 and 14).
- Lead each child to an activity.

Unit 1 Activities

Use these activities anytime during your session. Children will enjoy doing them each week.

Poster: Before class, display the unit 1 poster in your room. Ask children to point to the child who is praying. SAY: ♥ **We can pray at church.**

Books and puzzles: Use the *I Am Happy at Church!* book and other books and puzzles that show children at church. Look at books with interested children and help children do puzzles. Talk about how church is a happy place.

“I Am Happy at Church” song: Before class, display the unit 1 song poster in your room. Play “I Am Happy at Church” from the CD. Sing with individual children or small groups of children. Encourage children to clap their hands and sing along.

Fun with Blocks

Set out blocks and let children have fun with them. Stack a few blocks and SAY: **Who can help me build a church building?** Encourage children to help you. After you’ve completed a wall or two, SAY: **One thing we do at a church building is pray.** As children stack blocks and knock them over, say often, **Church is such a happy place! We play with our friends. We sing and we pray.** Sit “inside” one of the block structures. SAY: ♥ **I can pray at church.** Fold your hands, bow your head, and say a short prayer. Invite older children to imitate your actions and say a prayer.

1s will stack blocks and knock them over.

2s will do the above, sit inside a block structure, and possibly say a prayer.

Look What I Can Do

Sit with a few children on the floor. SAY: **Look what I can do with my hands. I can clap with my hands.** Do the suggested actions and encourage the children to do them too. **I can wave with my hands. I can wiggle my fingers really fast. I can hold my hands up high. I can fold my hands.** ♥ **I can pray at church.** Fold your hands and bow your head. Invite the children to do this also. (You may want to let the children use their hands to pray before eating a snack. Remember to check all food allergies.) PRAY: **Thank You, God, for all the things we can do with our hands. In Jesus’ name, amen.** Invite verbal children to pray “thank You, God.”

1s will try to imitate the finger movements and possibly fold their hands.

2s will do the above and pray.

Bible Words

“I am happy at church”
(based on Psalm 122:1).

Materials

sheet 1 unit 1 poster, sheet 5 song poster, *I Am Happy at Church!* book, books and puzzles, CD track 2, CD player



Materials

large blocks



Something More!

Encourage children to look at the suspended mobile. Sing the song suggested in the Jump for Joy Mobile activity in lesson 1.



Read *Friends at Church* in the CD Unit 1 Special Needs Helps file to understand the importance of church friends for children who have special needs.

Materials

(optional: snacks)



Have an adult helper offer hand-over-hand assistance while sitting behind the child who may have difficulty mimicking even the simplest of movements.

Transition to Bible Time

- Use a cleanup song or signal to transition to Bible Time.

Focus

♥ I pray at church.

Bible Time (shorter version: 5-10 minutes)

Use this Bible Time or the longer version found on the unit 1 pages to help children **know that we pray at church.**

Materials

hand mirror, Bible, CD track 1, CD player, baby doll, sheet 3 church building, empty glue bottle



Tips About Bible Time

Encourage verbal children and other helpers to sing the songs with you!

The song “Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible” is recorded on the CD.



Read Special Needs Tips in the CD Special Needs folder for how to use Bible Time with children who have special needs.

Read Show Me the Church in the CD Unit 1 Special Needs Helps file for ideas you can use to help children with special needs understand more about the church.

After children have gathered for Bible Time, sing this song several times: (tune: “The Farmer in the Dell”)

**I like to go to church. I like to go to church.
With all the other boys and girls,
I like to go to church.**

At the end of the song, clap and ask everyone to clap. **We’re so glad to be at church! We’re glad you’re at church today!** Hold the mirror in front of each child. **We’re so glad ___ is at church today. And we’re so glad ___ is at church today.** Do with each child, using each child’s name.

Show your Bible and ASK: **What is this?** Children should say “Bible.” **We love our Bible. It tells us about God. Let’s pat our Bible.** Hold the Bible in front of each child. Let each pat the Bible while singing “Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible” (track 1) several times:

(tune: “Did You Ever See a Lassie?”)

**Oh, I love to pat the Bible, the Bible, the Bible.
Oh, I love to pat the Bible, for it is God’s Word.**

The Bible tells us that church is a happy place. Show children the baby doll. **This little girl is ready to go to church. She likes to go to church.** Let children touch and hold the doll while singing this song:

(tune: “The Farmer in the Dell”)

**I am happy at church. I am happy at church.
I can pray at my church. I am happy at church.**

Stand up the church building. **The little girl is going to church.** Walk the doll to the church building. **She is happy at church. She likes to pray at church. ♥ We can pray at church too. It’s good to fold our hands when we pray. I’m going to put some special “glue” on my hands to help me fold them.** Take the glue bottle and pretend to glue your hands together. Show children your folded hands.

I’m going to put some special glue on your hands to help you fold your hands. Touch each child’s hands with the glue bottle and pretend to put on some special glue while singing this song:

(tune: “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”)

**I can pray at church. I can pray at church.
I can pray at church. I can pray at church.**

The Bible says that you (point to children) **are happy at church and I** (point to self) **am happy at church. Yay!** Clap hands. **Who is happy at church?** Encourage verbal children to say the Bible Words with you. Hold the mirror in front of each child as you SAY: ♥ **You can pray at church, ___.** PRAY: **Dear God, thank You that we can pray at church. In Jesus’ name, amen.** Encourage verbal children to say “thank You” or “God.”

Discovery Time (15–20 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **continue exploring the theme, I pray at church.**

Focus

♥ I pray at church.

Calling All Friends

Set out some phones or use the phones in the family living center. Give a phone to a child and keep one for yourself. Call the child on the phone while playing the phone sounds on the CD. SAY: **Hello, ____.** **This is ____.** **Would you like to come to church with me?** Encourage the child to respond. ♥ **I pray at church. I am happy at church!** Invite verbal children to say with you, **I am happy at church!** Also encourage the children to call each other and say the Bible Words.

1s will listen on a phone and enjoy being spoken to.

2s will do the above, call other children on the phone, and say the Bible Words.

Going to Church

Set out several riding toys and push/pull toys children can play with. SAY: **It's time to go to church. Follow me!** Play the car sounds from the CD as you lead the children around the classroom while they either ride their vehicles or push/pull their toys. After a short walk, SAY: **Here we are at church. ♥ We can pray at church. Let's pray and thank God for a safe trip.** Say a short prayer and encourage the children to pray with you. If children are interested, do the activity again and let one of the older children be the leader.

1s will enjoy riding or pushing/pulling a toy and may follow you.

2s will do the above, possibly say a prayer, and possibly be the leader.

Praying Children



Before class, print copies of the coloring page.

Give each child a copy of the coloring page. SAY: **Look at the children.**

What are they doing? Encourage verbal children to respond to questions.

They are praying to God. They know that ♥ they can pray at church. As

children scribble-color the page, ASK: **Do you like to come to church?**

Can you pray at church? Allow children who have trouble grasping small objects to use bingo daubers or stampers to color their pages. Give children a few happy face stickers to press onto the page. Some children may enjoy gluing small pieces of fabric onto the clothes. **Church is a happy place. I am happy at church! Are you happy at church?** Invite verbal children to say the Bible Words with you.

1s will scribble-color and press on stickers.

2s will do the above, respond to questions, and say the Bible Words.

Saying Good-bye

For children who are leaving, give parents craft activities and copies of *Family Together Time* issue 2 from the CD. Tell parents something their children enjoyed. Tell each child, **Good-bye. See you next time!** Note: *Family Together Time* is also available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

Materials

real or toy phones, CD track 9, CD player
(optional: family living center)



Read Friends at Church in the CD Unit 1 Special Needs Helps file to understand the importance of church friends for children who have special needs.

Materials

riding and push/pull toys, CD track 8, CD player



Read Drive Me Crazy in the CD Unit 1 Special Needs Helps file to adapt this activity for children who have special needs.

Materials

CD Praying Children coloring page printable file, large crayons, happy face stickers (optional: bingo daubers or stampers, fabric)



Transition to Extra Hour

- Have at least one adult greet new children and at least one adult engage children in activities away from the door.
- Continue Discovery Time choices children are enjoying.
- As children play with blocks or balls, SAY: **Church is such a happy place!**
- Let children play with modeling dough. SAY: **It's fun to play with dough. I am happy at church!**

Focus

♥ I pray at church.

Extra Hour Activity and Bible Time

(25–35 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **explore the theme, I pray at church.**

Bible Words

“I am happy at church”
(based on Psalm 122:1).

Materials

masking tape, sheet 3
church building



Materials

CD *Family Together Time*
issue 2 printable file



Materials

hand mirror, Bible, CD
tracks 1 and 2, CD
player, *I Am Happy at Church!*
book



Tips About Bible Time

Encourage verbal children and other helpers to sing the songs with you!

The songs “Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible” and “I Am Happy at Church” are recorded on the CD.



Read Special Needs Tips in the CD Special Needs folder for how to use Bible Time with children who have special needs.

Welcome

- Welcome new children by name.
- Do check-in procedures you follow (name and security tags, etc.).
- Check and change diapers and/or have restroom time.

Unit 1 Activity Walking to Church

Before class, make a long line on the floor with the tape. Put the church building at one end. Invite the children to walk on the line to church. SAY: **I like to go to church. ♥ We can pray at church!**

“I Fold My Hands”

Do the rhyme from *Family Together Time*. Invite children to clap their hands with you. Use a cleanup song or signal and transition to Bible Time.

Bible Time

Use this Bible Time, the one from first hour, or the longer version found on the unit pages.

Sing this song several times:

(tune: “The Farmer in the Dell”)

I like to go to church. I like to go to church.

With all the other boys and girls, I like to go to church.

Clap and ask everyone to clap. **We’re so glad to be at church! We’re glad you’re at church today! Hold the mirror in front of each child. We’re so glad ___ is at church today. And we’re so glad ___ is at church today.**

Show your Bible and ASK: **What is this?** Children should say “Bible.” **We love our Bible. It tells us about God. Let’s pat our Bible.** Hold the Bible in front of each child. Let each pat the Bible while singing “Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible” (track 1) several times:

(tune: “Did You Ever See a Lassie?”)

Oh, I love to pat the Bible, the Bible, the Bible.

Oh, I love to pat the Bible, for it is God’s Word.

Read *I Am Happy at Church!*, showing the pictures as you read. Then sing “I Am Happy at Church” (track 2) and encourage children to clap:
(tune: “If You’re Happy and You Know It”; also sing—*I can sing.)

I am happy at church, *I’ll clap my hands.

I am happy at church, *I’ll clap my hands.

I am happy at church. I am happy at church.

I am happy at church, *I’ll clap my hands.

The Bible tells us that you (point to children) **are happy at church and I** (point to self) **am happy at church. Who is happy at church?** Encourage children to say the Bible Words. Hold the mirror in front of each child as you SAY: ♥ **You can pray at church, ___, PRAY: Dear God, thank You that we can pray to You at church. In Jesus’ name, amen.**

Extra Hour Discovery Time (20–25 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **continue exploring the theme, I pray at church.**

Focus

♥ I pray at church.

Puppet Fun You Can Pray

Take Teddy to individual children or small groups of children. **Hi! My name is Teddy. What is your name?** Invite children to respond. **I like to talk with you. I hope you like talking with me. Do you know who else you can talk to? You can talk and pray to God.** Fold Teddy's hands. **Can you fold your hands?** Help each child do so. **You can fold your hands when you pray to God.**

Materials

Teddy the bear puppet



Getting Babies Ready

Let the children have fun with the dolls. SAY: **It's time to get ready for church. The baby dolls need a bath.** Show how to wash the dolls' faces and hands with a wet washcloth. Guide the children to feed the dolls also. Set up the church building. **It's time to go to church. Let's go!** Hold a doll and walk to the church building. Encourage children to walk with you. **Here we are at church! Can you pray at church? ♥ I can pray at church. I am happy at church!** Invite verbal children to say the Bible Words with you.

1s will help bathe and feed the baby dolls.

2s will do the above, walk to the church building, and say the Bible Words.

Materials

baby dolls, wet washcloths (or wet wipes), doll bottles, toy food, sheet 3 church building



Read Show Me the Church in the CD Unit 1 Special Needs Helps file to adapt this activity for children who have special needs.

Peekaboo Pictures

Put the picture board on the floor or on a table and encourage a child to lift a flap and look at the hidden picture. ASK: **Is the girl happy?** Encourage verbal children to respond. **We are happy here at church. Is the girl happy? She likes to pray at church. ♥ I pray at church too.** Point to yourself and SAY: **I am happy at church.** Ask children to point to themselves and verbal children to say the Bible Words with you.

1s will enjoy lifting the flaps and look at the pictures.

2s will do the above, respond to questions, and say the Bible Words.

Materials

peekaboo picture board from lesson 1



Praying Hands

Before class, print "I pray at church" at the top of sheets of construction paper.

Ask each child to place one hand on a sheet of construction paper while you trace around it. As children scribble-color their hand outlines, SAY: **This is an outline of one of your hands. You can do a lot of things with your hands. You can fold your hands when you pray.** Fold your hands. **Can you fold your hands? I like to pray to God. ♥ I can pray at church.** Invite verbal children to say the Bible Words with you. Let children also press stickers onto their papers.

1s will probably let you trace their hands, scribble-color the papers, and press on stickers.

2s will do the above and say the Bible Words.

Materials

construction paper, large crayons, stickers of people praying (and/or praying hands stickers)



Some children may not want their hands traced around. That's OK. You can trace around your hand and give your outline to the children to color.

Saying Good-bye

Give parents copies of *Family Together Time* issue 2 from the CD and craft activities their children may have done. Tell each child, **Good-bye. See you next week!**

NOTE: *Family Together Time* is also available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

I Learn About Jesus at Church

Lesson 3



Scripture: Psalm 122:1












Focus: ♥ I learn about Jesus at church.

Bible Words: “I am happy at church” (based on Psalm 122:1).

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

When you think of learning situations you have had in the past, what words come to your mind? Pleasant? Fun? Challenging? Boring? Not appropriate? Hopefully, you’ve never been bored learning about Jesus. But you may have been. And hopefully, you’ve never had to endure a class that just wasn’t appropriate for you. But you probably have. As you prepare each week, make a promise never to use methods that aren’t appropriate for the young children you teach. If you teach about Jesus with methods that are appropriate to young children, they will learn a lot. They will also have a lot of fun—and so will you!

Lesson 3 at a Glance

<p>ACTIVITY TIME Use one or more of these activities to help children <i>explore the theme, I learn about Jesus at church.</i> Note: You can find the CD, visual sheets, and board books in the <i>Toddlers & 2s Teacher’s Classroom Pack.</i></p>	<p>First Hour Unit 1 Activities poster, books and puzzles, song</p> <p> Matching Picture Cards</p> <p> Scoop 'n' Pour</p>	<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sheet 1 unit 1 poster, sheet 5 song poster, <i>I Am Happy at Church!</i> book, books and puzzles, CD, CD player • sheet 4 matching picture cards of children • 2 plastic tubs; sheet 4 Bible figures; tape; dry cereal; tablecloth; scoops, measuring cups, and other containers 	<p>Extra Hour Unit 1 Activity Walking to Church</p> <p> Active Play</p> <p> Song “Jesus Is My Friend”</p>	<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • masking tape, sheet 3 church building • CD <i>Family Together Time</i> issue 3 printable file
<p>BIBLE TIME Help children <i>know that we learn about Jesus at church.</i></p>	<p>Bible Time can be done several ways and whenever best fits your schedule. If you do the longer Bible Time story, you will need more items.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hand mirror, Bible, CD, CD player, baby doll, sheet 3 church building, sheet 4 Jesus figure 	<p>Bible Time can be done several ways. If you do one of the other story options, you will need different items.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teddy the bear puppet, hand mirror, Bible, CD, CD player, <i>I Am Happy at Church!</i> book
<p>DISCOVERY TIME Use one or more of these activities to help children <i>continue exploring the theme, I learn about Jesus at church.</i></p>	<p> A Flashlight Walk</p> <p> Phone Fun</p> <p> Special Boxes</p> <p>Saying Good-bye or Transition to Extra Hour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • flashlight, Bible, sheet 3 church building, sheet 4 Jesus figure • real or toy phones, CD, CD player • boxes with lids, CD Jesus Head printable file, scissors, address labels, marker, large crayons, stickers, glue • Bible storybooks, modeling dough, CD <i>Family Together Time</i> issue 3 printable file 	<p> Puppet Fun Learning About Jesus</p> <p> Riding to Church</p> <p> Peekaboo Pictures</p> <p> Coloring and Sticker Fun</p> <p>Saying Good-bye</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teddy the bear puppet • riding toys, CD, CD player, large towel • peekaboo picture board from previous lessons • CD Church Building coloring page printable file, large crayons, Jesus and happy face stickers • CD <i>Family Together Time</i> issue 3 printable file

Activity Time (25–30 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **explore the theme, I learn about Jesus at church.**

Welcome

- Welcome each child by name.
- Do check-in procedures you follow (name and security tags, etc.).
- Play songs softly in the background (Optional—tracks 13 and 14).
- Lead each child to an activity.

Unit 1 Activities

Use these activities anytime during your session. Children will enjoy doing them each week.

Poster: Before class, display the unit 1 poster in your room. Ask children to point to the children. SAY: **They are learning about Jesus at church.**

Books and puzzles: Use the *I Am Happy at Church!* book and other books and puzzles that show children at church. Look at books with interested children and help children do puzzles. Talk about how church is a happy place.

“I Am Happy at Church” song: Before class, display the unit 1 song poster in your room. Play “I Am Happy at Church” from the CD. Sing with individual children or small groups of children. Encourage children to clap their hands and sing along.

Matching Picture Cards

Lay both sets of matching picture cards faceup on a table or on the floor. Hold up one of the cards. **This girl is learning about Jesus at church. Can you find another card with this girl on it?** Help children as needed. When children match the cards, clap your hands and SAY: **Yay! You made a match!** Encourage children to clap their hands too. Continue doing this activity using the different picture cards. SAY: **I’m glad that ♥ we can learn about Jesus at church. Can you learn about Jesus at church?** Encourage verbal children to respond.

1s will match the picture cards.

2s will do the above and respond to questions.

Scoop 'n' Pour



Before class, tape the figures of the Bibles to the inside bottoms of two small tubs. Fill one tub with cereal. Place both tubs on a tablecloth.

Have children look at the empty tub. ASK: **What do you see?** Encourage children to point to the Bible and verbal children to respond. **It’s a Bible. The Bible tells us about Jesus.** Allow the children to use scoops and cups to scoop the cereal from the filled tub into the empty one. When they scoop all the cereal from the tub, they will discover another Bible. ASK: **What is that? It’s a Bible! Who does the Bible tell us about? ♥ We learn about Jesus at church.**

1s will enjoy scooping cereal and point to the Bible.

2s will do the above and respond to questions.

Focus

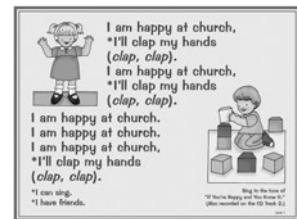
♥ I learn about Jesus at church.

Bible Words

“I am happy at church”
(based on Psalm 122:1).

Materials

sheet 1 unit 1 poster, sheet 5 song poster, *I Am Happy at Church!* book, books and puzzles, CD track 2, CD player



Materials

sheet 4 matching picture cards of children



Something More!

Encourage children to look at the mobile suspended from the ceiling. Sing the song suggested in the Jump for Joy Mobile activity in lesson 1.

Materials

2 small plastic tubs;
sheet 4 Bible figures;
clear tape; dry cereal; tablecloth (or large towels); scoops, measuring cups, and other small containers



Read Scoop 'n' Pour in the CD Unit 1 Special Needs Helps file for more ways to use this activity with children.

Transition to Bible Time

- Use a cleanup song or signal to transition to Bible Time.

Focus

♥ I learn about Jesus at church.

Bible Time (shorter version: 5-10 minutes)

Use this Bible Time or the longer version found on the unit 1 pages to help children **know that we learn about Jesus at church.**

Materials

hand mirror, Bible, CD track 1, CD player, baby doll, sheet 3 church building, sheet 4 Jesus figure



Before Class

Put the figure of Jesus in the Bible.

Tips About Bible Time

Encourage verbal children and other helpers to sing the songs with you!

The song “Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible” is recorded on the CD.



Read Special Needs Tips in the CD Special Needs folder for how to use Bible Time with children who have special needs.

Read Show Me the Church in the CD Unit 1 Special Needs Helps file for ideas you can use to help children with special needs understand more about the church.

After children have gathered for Bible Time, sing this song several times: (tune: “The Farmer in the Dell”)

**I like to go to church. I like to go to church.
With all the other boys and girls,
I like to go to church.**

At the end of the song, clap and ask everyone to clap. **We’re so glad to be at church! We’re glad you’re at church today!** Hold the mirror in front of each child. **We’re so glad ___ is at church today. And we’re so glad ___ is at church today.** Do with each child, using each child’s name.

Show your Bible and ASK: **What is this?** Children should say “Bible.” **We love our Bible. It tells us about God. Let’s pat our Bible.** Hold the Bible in front of each child. Let each pat the Bible while singing “Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible” (track 1) several times:

(tune: “Did You Ever See a Lassie?”)

**Oh, I love to pat the Bible, the Bible, the Bible.
Oh, I love to pat the Bible, for it is God’s Word.**

The Bible tells us that church is a happy place. Show children the baby doll. **This little girl is ready to go to church. She likes to go to church.** Let children touch and hold the doll while singing this song:

(tune: “The Farmer in the Dell”)

**I am happy at church. I am happy at church.
I learn about Jesus at my church.
I am happy at church.**

Stand up the church building. **The little girl is going to church.** Walk the doll to the church building. **She learns about Jesus at church. Who do you learn about at church?** Allow verbal children to respond. **♥ We learn about Jesus at church. Can you find the figure of Jesus in the Bible?** Help each child find the Jesus figure in the Bible while singing this song:

(tune: “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”)

**I can learn at church. I can learn at church.
I can learn at church. I can learn at church.**

The Bible says that you (point to children) **are happy at church and I** (point to self) **am happy at church. Yay!** Clap hands. **Who is happy at church?** Encourage verbal children to say the Bible Words with you. Hold the mirror in front of each child as you SAY: **♥ You can learn about Jesus at church, ___.** PRAY: **Dear God, thank You that we can learn about Jesus at church. In Jesus’ name, amen.** Encourage verbal children to say “thank You” or “God.”

Discovery Time (15–20 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **continue exploring the theme, I learn about Jesus at church.**

A Flashlight Walk



Before this activity, put the Bible and the two pictures in three different areas of the room.

Show the flashlight. SAY: **A flashlight helps us see when it is dark.** Tell the children you are going to dim the lights. Ask the children to follow the light as you lead them on a short walk around the room. Shine the light on the Bible. ASK: **What is that?** Allow verbal children to respond. **We learn about Jesus in the Bible.** Walk and shine the light on the figures of Jesus and the church building. Ask the same type of question. **I'm glad that**

♥ we learn about Jesus at church.

1s will follow the light and point to the items.

2s will do the above and respond to questions.

Phone Fun

Set out some phones or use the phones in the family living center. Give a phone to a child and keep one for yourself. Call the child on the phone while playing the phone sounds on the CD. **Hello, ____.** **This is ____.** **Would you like to come to church with me?** Encourage the child to respond.

♥ I learn about Jesus at church. I am happy at church! Invite verbal children to say with you, **I am happy at church!** Also encourage the children to call each other and say the Bible Words.

1s will listen on a phone and enjoy being spoken to.

2s will do the above, call other children on the phone, and say the Bible Words.

Special Boxes

Before class, print copies of the Jesus head printable file and cut them out. Print "I learn about Jesus at church" on labels.

Give each child a small box and let children scribble-color the boxes and decorate with stickers. Give children the Jesus figures, cover the backs of the figures with glue, and help them press the figures onto the inside bottom of the boxes. ASK: **Who is that?** Encourage verbal children to respond. **That's Jesus!** Put the lids on the boxes. **Where is Jesus?** Invite children to remove the lids. **♥ We learn about Jesus at church.** Help children press on the labels to the outside of their boxes. **Who do you learn about at church? Jesus!**

1s will decorate their boxes, press on the figures of Jesus and labels, and possibly remove the lids.

2s will do the above and respond to questions.

Saying Good-bye

For children who are leaving, give parents craft activities and copies of *Family Together Time* issue 3 from the CD. Tell parents something their children enjoyed. Tell each child, **Good-bye. See you next time!** Note: *Family Together Time* is also available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

Focus

♥ I learn about Jesus at church.

Materials

flashlight, Bible, sheet 3
church building, sheet 4
Jesus figure



Teaching Tip

Don't darken the room too much. A very dark room will scare some children and is not safe.

Materials

real or toy phones, CD
track 9, CD player
(optional: family living center)



Materials

small boxes with lids,
CD Jesus Head printable
file, scissors, address labels,
marker, large crayons, stickers,
glue



Special Note

Photos of the children's families will be needed for the lesson 5 Family Frames activity.

Transition to Extra Hour

- Have at least one adult greet new children and at least one adult engage children in activities away from the door.
- Continue Discovery Time choices children are enjoying.
- Read stories about Jesus with children. SAY: **♥ You can learn about Jesus at church.**
- Let children play with modeling dough. SAY: **We are happy at church!**

Focus

♥ I learn about Jesus at church.

Extra Hour Activity and Bible Time

(25–35 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **explore the theme, I learn about Jesus at church.**

Bible Words

“I am happy at church”
(based on Psalm 122:1).

Materials

masking tape, sheet 3
church building



Materials

CD *Family Together*
Time issue 3 printable file



Materials

Teddy the bear puppet,
hand mirror, Bible, CD
tracks 1 and 2, CD player, *I Am*
Happy at Church! book



Tips About Bible Time

Encourage verbal children and other helpers to sing the songs with you!

The songs “Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible” and “I Am Happy at Church” are recorded on the CD.

Call Teddy by name. Children will love to hear the name of their furry friend!



Read Special Needs Tips in the CD Special Needs folder for how to use Bible Time with children who have special needs.

Welcome

- Welcome new children by name.
- Do check-in procedures you follow (name and security tags, etc.).
- Check and change diapers and/or have restroom time.

Unit 1 Activity Walking to Church

Before class, make a long line on the floor with masking tape. Put the church building at one end. Invite the children to walk on the line to church. SAY: **I like to go to church. ♥ We learn about Jesus at church!**

“Jesus Is My Friend”

Sing the song from *Family Together Time*. Invite children to clap their hands with you. Use a cleanup song or signal and transition to Bible Time.

Bible Time

Use this Bible Time, the one from first hour, or the longer version found on the unit pages.

Sing this song several times as each child pets or hugs Teddy:
(tune: “The Farmer in the Dell”)

I like to go to church. I like to go to church.

With all the other boys and girls, I like to go to church.

Clap and ask everyone to clap. **We’re so glad to be at church! We’re glad you’re at church today!** Hold the mirror in front of each child. **We’re so glad ___ is at church today. And we’re so glad ___ is at church today.**

Show your Bible and ASK: **What is this?** Children should say “Bible.” **We love our Bible. It tells us about God. Let’s pat our Bible.** Hold the Bible in front of each child. Let each pat the Bible while singing “Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible” (track 1) several times:

(tune: “Did You Ever See a Lassie?”)

Oh, I love to pat the Bible, the Bible, the Bible.

Oh, I love to pat the Bible, for it is God’s Word.

Read *I Am Happy at Church!*, showing the pictures as you read. Then sing “I Am Happy at Church” (track 2) and encourage children to clap:
(tune: “If You’re Happy and You Know It”; also sing—*I can sing.)

I am happy at church, *I’ll clap my hands.

I am happy at church, *I’ll clap my hands.

I am happy at church. I am happy at church.

I am happy at church, *I’ll clap my hands.

The Bible tells us that you (point to children) **are happy at church and I** (point to self) **am happy at church.** Encourage children to say the Bible Words. Hold the mirror in front of each child as you SAY: **♥ You learn about Jesus at church, ___.** PRAY: **Dear God, thank You that we learn about Jesus at church. In Jesus’ name, amen.** Have Teddy say good-bye.

Extra Hour Discovery Time (20–25 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **continue exploring the theme, I learn about Jesus at church.**

Focus

♥ I learn about Jesus at church.

Puppet Fun Learning About Jesus

Go with Teddy to individual children or small groups of children. **Hi! My name is Teddy. I like to go to church. I like to sing and play with toys. What do you like to do at church? Invite verbal children to respond. Do you know what I like best? I like to learn about Jesus at church. I am happy at church.** Encourage verbal children to say the Bible Words with Teddy.

Materials

Teddy the bear puppet



Riding to Church

Set out several riding toys. SAY: **It's time to go to church. Follow me!** Play the car sounds from the CD as you lead the children around the classroom while they ride the toys. Encourage children to honk their horns. After a short walk, SAY: **Here we are at church. ♥ We can learn about Jesus at church. I am happy at church.** Invite verbal children to say the Bible Words with you. For added fun, invite a child to sit on the large towel. Tell the child to hold on while you gently pull the child a short distance to "church."

Materials

riding toys, CD track 8, CD player, large towel



1s will enjoy riding a toy and may follow you.

2s will do the above and say the Bible Words.

Peekaboo Pictures

Put the picture board on the floor or on a table and encourage a child to lift a flap and look at the hidden picture. **Is the girl happy? Encourage verbal children to respond. We are happy here at church. Is the boy happy? He likes to learn about Jesus at church. ♥ I learn about Jesus at church too.** Point to yourself and SAY: **I am happy at church.** Ask children to point to themselves and verbal children to say the Bible Words with you.



Read Drive Me Crazy in the CD Unit 1 Special Needs Helps file to adapt this activity for children who have special needs.

1s will enjoy lifting the flaps and look at the pictures.

2s will do the above, respond to questions, and say the Bible Words.

Materials

peekaboo picture board from previous lessons



Coloring and Sticker Fun

Before class, print copies of the coloring page.

Give each child a copy of the coloring page. **This is a picture of a church building. Who do we learn about at church? Invite verbal children to respond. ♥ We learn about Jesus at church.** Let children scribble-color the page and press on stickers of Jesus and happy face stickers. While children work, SAY: **Church is a happy place. I am happy at church! Are you happy at church?** Invite verbal children to say the Bible Words with you.

Materials

CD Church Building coloring page printable file, large crayons, Jesus and happy face stickers



1s will scribble-color the picture and press on stickers.

2s will do the above and say the Bible Words.

Saying Good-bye

Give parents copies of *Family Together Time* issue 3 from the CD and craft activities their children may have done. Tell each child, **Good-bye. See you next week!**

NOTE: *Family Together Time* is also available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

I Have Friends at Church

Lesson 4



Scripture: Psalm 122:1

Focus: ♥ I have friends at church.

Bible Words: “I am happy at church” (based on Psalm 122:1).












Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

It's great to have friends. You probably have friends in the congregation you attend. Hopefully, they are the kind of friends who love you, laugh with you, and sometimes cry with you. They also pray for you and encourage you in your walk with the Lord. But there may be some people in your congregation who don't have any friends at church. Search them out and find ways to get to know them. Help them find ways to get involved and get to know others. Everyone needs to have friends at church!



Read Friends at Church in the CD Unit 1 Special Needs Helps file to understand the importance of church friends for children who have special needs.

Lesson 4 at a Glance

<p>ACTIVITY TIME Use one or more of these activities to help children <i>explore the theme, I have friends at church.</i> Note: You can find the CD, visual sheets, and board books in the <i>Toddlers & 2s Teacher's Classroom Pack.</i></p>	<p>First Hour Unit 1 Activities poster, books and puzzles, song</p> <p> Friendship Parade</p> <p> Picnic with Friends</p>	<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sheet 1 unit 1 poster, sheet 5 song poster, <i>I Am Happy at Church!</i> book, books and puzzles, CD, CD player • scarves and crepe paper, streamers, basket, CD, CD player • snack, basket, paper plates, blanket 	<p>Extra Hour Unit 1 Activity Walking to Church</p> <p> “Lots of Friends”</p> <p></p>	<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • masking tape, sheet 3 church building • CD <i>Family Together Time</i> issue 4 printable file
<p>BIBLE TIME Help children <i>know that we have friends at church.</i></p>	<p>Bible Time can be done several ways and whenever best fits your schedule. If you do the longer Bible Time story, you will need more items.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hand mirror, Bible, CD, CD player, 2 baby dolls, sheet 3 church building 	<p>Bible Time can be done several ways. If you do one of the other story options, you will need different items.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teddy the bear puppet, hand mirror, Bible, CD, CD player, <i>I Am Happy at Church!</i> book
<p>DISCOVERY TIME Use one or more of these activities to help children <i>continue exploring the theme, I have friends at church.</i></p>	<p> Kitchen Fun</p> <p> Ball Toss</p> <p> I Have Friends</p> <p>Saying Good-bye or Transition to Extra Hour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • kitchen center or related items, modeling dough, muffin tins, cookie sheets • soft balls, laundry baskets, CD, CD player • construction paper, marker, large crayons • blocks, CD <i>Family Together Time</i> issue 4 printable file 	<p> Puppet Fun Friends at Church</p> <p> Fun with Dough</p> <p> Digging with Friends</p> <p> Circle of Friends</p> <p>Saying Good-bye</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teddy the bear puppet • modeling dough, child-size rolling pins, cookie cutters • sand table, plastic toys, plastic spoons • paper plates, marker, hole punch, yarn, scissors, magazines or stickers, glue stick • CD <i>Family Together Time</i> issue 4 printable file

Activity Time (25–30 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **explore the theme, I have friends at church.**

Focus

♥ I have friends at church.

Welcome

- Welcome each child by name.
- Do check-in procedures you follow (name and security tags, etc.).
- Play songs softly in the background (Optional—tracks 13 and 14).
- Lead each child to an activity.

Unit 1 Activities

Use these activities anytime during your session. Children will enjoy doing them each week.

Poster: Before class, display the unit 1 poster in your room. Ask children to point to the children. SAY: **These boys and girls are friends at church.**

Books and puzzles: Use the *I Am Happy at Church!* book and other books and puzzles that show children at church. Look at books with interested children and help children do puzzles. Talk about how church is a happy place.

“I Am Happy at Church” song: Before class, display the unit 1 song poster in your room. Play “I Am Happy at Church” from the CD. Sing with individual children or small groups of children. Encourage children to clap their hands and sing along.

Friendship Parade

Before the activity, put scarves and crepe paper streamers in the basket.

Invite each child to choose a scarf. SAY: **Let’s march around with our friends.** As you play a song from the CD, encourage children to wave their scarves or streamers as they march around the room. After the song, SAY: **It’s fun to play with our friends. I’m glad ♥ I have friends at church! Do you have friends at church?** Invite verbal children to say a big yes! Continue this activity as long as children are interested. Older children will enjoy marching around the room while waving their scarves. When children are done, encourage them to return the scarves to the basket.

1s will hold and wave their scarves.

2s will do the above and march around the room with their scarves.

Picnic with Friends

Before the activity, put the snack in the basket.

SAY: **We are going on a picnic with our friends.** Hold the basket and start walking. Encourage the children to walk with you. Stop and spread out the blanket and invite children to sit down. **I’m glad ♥ we have friends at church we can go on a picnic with.** Offer a prayer of thanks and then serve the snack. While children eat, SAY: **I’m glad ♥ we have friends at church. Look at all the friends we have at church! ___ (child’s name) is our friend, and ___ (child’s name) is our friend.** Be sure to say all the children’s names. Older children may enjoy saying their own names.

1s will enjoy going on a picnic and enjoy the snack.

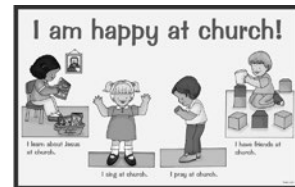
2s will do the above and say their own names.

Bible Words

“I am happy at church”
(based on Psalm 122:1).

Materials

sheet 1 unit 1 poster, sheet 5 song poster, *I Am Happy at Church!* book, books and puzzles, CD track 2, CD player



Materials

scarves and crepe paper streamers, basket (or box), CD, CD player



Teaching Tip

Show children how to hold their scarves up high and wave them, and then hold them down low and wave them.

Materials

snack (banana slices, dry cereal, graham crackers, etc.), basket, paper plates, blanket



Check food allergies and have alternative food available. Check with parents to be sure the choice is appropriate.

Transition to Bible Time

- Use a cleanup song or signal to transition to Bible Time.

Focus

♥ I have friends at church.

Bible Time (shorter version: 5-10 minutes)

Use this Bible Time or the longer version found on the unit 1 pages to help each child **know that we have friends at church.**

Materials

hand mirror, Bible, CD track 1, CD player, 2 baby dolls, sheet 3 church building



Tips About Bible Time

Encourage verbal children and other helpers to sing the songs with you!

The song "Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible" is recorded on the CD.



Read Special Needs Tips in the CD Special Needs folder for how to use Bible Time with children who have special needs.

Read Show Me the Church in the CD Unit 1 Special Needs Helps file for ideas you can use to help children with special needs understand more about the church.

After children have gathered for Bible Time, sing this song several times: (tune: "The Farmer in the Dell")

**I like to go to church. I like to go to church.
With all the other boys and girls,
I like to go to church.**

At the end of the song, clap and ask everyone to clap. **We're so glad to be at church! We're glad you're at church today!** Hold the mirror in front of each child. **We're so glad ___ is at church today. And we're so glad ___ is at church today.** Do with each child, using each child's name.

Show your Bible and ASK: **What is this?** Children should say "Bible." **We love our Bible. It tells us about God. Let's pat our Bible.** Hold the Bible in front of each child. Let each pat the Bible while singing "Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible" (track 1) several times:

(tune: "Did You Ever See a Lassie?")

**Oh, I love to pat the Bible, the Bible, the Bible.
Oh, I love to pat the Bible, for it is God's Word.**

The Bible tells us that church is a happy place. Show children the baby doll. **This little girl is ready to go to church. She likes to go to church.** Let children touch and hold the doll while singing this song:

(tune: "The Farmer in the Dell")

**I am happy at church. I am happy at church.
I have friends at my church.
I am happy at church.**

Stand up the church building. **The little girl is going to church.** Walk the baby doll to the church building. **She has friends at church.** Put another baby doll by the first one. **This is one of her friends. Do you have friends at church?** Allow verbal children to respond. **I'm glad that ♥ we have friends at church.** Let children hold the baby dolls while singing this song:

(tune: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

**I have friends at church. I have friends at church.
I have friends at church. I have friends at church.**

The Bible says that you (point to children) **are happy at church and I** (point to self) **am happy at church. Yay!** Clap hands. **Who is happy at church?** Encourage verbal children to say the Bible Words with you. Hold the mirror in front of each child as you SAY: ♥ **You have friends at church, ___.** PRAY: **Dear God, thank You that we have friends at church. In Jesus' name, amen.** Encourage verbal children to say "thank You" or "God."

Discovery Time (15–20 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **continue exploring the theme, I have friends at church.**

Focus

♥ I have friends at church.

Kitchen Fun

Let children enjoy playing in the kitchen center or use related items. As they play, SAY: **It's good to work in the kitchen with our friends. I'm glad ♥ I have friends at church.** Encourage the children to cook and serve food to each other. You may want to allow children to make muffins and cookies with modeling dough. As children serve you some food, SAY: **I'm so happy to have you as my friends here at church. I am happy at church!** Invite verbal children to say the Bible Words with you.

1s will enjoy pretending to cook, serve, and eat food.

2s will do the above and say the Bible Words.

Ball Toss

Provide a few laundry baskets that children can toss balls into. Guide children to toss balls into the baskets. ASK: **Where did the ball go? Can you find it?** As they play, SAY: **I'm glad that ♥ we have friends at church we can play with.** Play track 2 from the CD while children play with balls. Sing the song and encourage verbal children to sing too. For added fun, encourage children to look at the mobile suspended from the ceiling. Sing the following to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell." Encourage verbal children to sing with you. **I am happy at church. I am happy at church. I am very happy. I am happy at church.**

1s will enjoy tossing balls into baskets and looking for them.

2s will do the above, respond to questions, and sing some of the song.

I Have Friends

Before class, print "I have friends at church" at the top of the papers, one per child.

Trace a child's hand on two pieces of paper. SAY: ____ (child's name), **you are one of our friends at church.** Trace another child's hand on the same sheets of paper. SAY: ____ (child's name), **you are one of our friends at church.** Give those two children one of the sheets of paper. Allow them to scribble-color the hand outlines. Do the same for all the children. As children color, SAY: **I'm so glad ♥ I have friends at church. Do you have friends at church? Are you happy at church?** Invite verbal children to respond.

1s will allow you to trace their hands and scribble-color the pages.

2s will do the above and respond to questions.

Saying Good-bye

For children who are leaving, give parents craft activities and copies of *Family Together Time* issue 4 from the CD. Tell parents something their children enjoyed. Tell each child, **Good-bye. See you next time!** Note: *Family Together Time* is also available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

Materials

kitchen center or related items (toy dishes, pots and pans, toy food, toy stove), modeling dough, muffin tins, cookie sheets



Provide allergen-free modeling dough that is safe for all children.

Materials

soft balls, laundry baskets (or boxes or other containers), CD track 2, CD player



Materials

construction paper, marker, large crayons



Some children may not want you to trace their hands. That's OK. Trace one of the other children's hands or trace your own.

Special Note

Photos of the children's families will be needed for the lesson 5 Family Frames activity.

Transition to Extra Hour

- Have at least one adult greet new children and at least one adult engage children in activities away from the door.
- Continue Discovery Time choices children are enjoying.
- Let the children play with blocks. SAY: **It's fun to build things with our friends.**

Focus

♥ I have friends at church.

Extra Hour Activity and Bible Time

(25–35 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **explore the theme, I have friends at church.**

Bible Words

“I am happy at church”
(based on Psalm 122:1).

Materials

masking tape, sheet 3
church building



Materials

CD *Family Together Time*
issue 4 printable file



Materials

Teddy the bear puppet,
hand mirror, Bible, CD
tracks 1 and 2, CD player, *I Am
Happy at Church!* book



Tips About Bible Time

Encourage verbal children and other helpers to sing the songs with you!

The songs “Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible” and “I Am Happy at Church” are recorded on the CD.

Call Teddy by name. Children will love to hear the name of their furry friend!



Read Special Needs Tips in the CD Special Needs folder for how to use Bible Time with children who have special needs.

Welcome

- Welcome new children by name.
- Do check-in procedures you follow (name and security tags, etc.).
- Check and change diapers and/or have restroom time.

Unit 1 Activity Walking to Church

Before class, make a long line on the floor with masking tape. Put the church building at one end. Invite the children to walk on the line to church. SAY: **I like to go to church. ♥ We have friends at church!**

“Lots of Friends”

Sing the song from *Family Together Time*. Invite children to clap their hands with you. Use a cleanup song or signal and transition to Bible Time.

Bible Time

Use this Bible Time, the one from first hour, or the longer version found on the unit pages.

Sing this song several times as each child pets or hugs Teddy:
(tune: “The Farmer in the Dell”)

I like to go to church. I like to go to church.

With all the other boys and girls, I like to go to church.

Clap and ask everyone to clap. **We’re so glad to be at church! We’re glad you’re at church today!** Hold the mirror in front of each child. **We’re so glad ___ is at church today. And we’re so glad ___ is at church today.**

Show your Bible and ASK: **What is this?** Children should say “Bible.” **We love our Bible. It tells us about God. Let’s pat our Bible.** Hold the Bible in front of each child. Let each pat the Bible while singing “Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible” (track 1) several times:

(tune: “Did You Ever See a Lassie?”)

Oh, I love to pat the Bible, the Bible, the Bible.

Oh, I love to pat the Bible, for it is God’s Word.

Read *I Am Happy at Church!*, showing the pictures as you read. Then sing “I Am Happy at Church” (track 2) and encourage children to clap:
(tune: “If You’re Happy and You Know It”)

I am happy at church, I have friends. (clap, clap)

I am happy at church, I have friends. (clap, clap)

I am happy at church. I am happy at church.

I am happy at church, I have friends. (clap, clap)

The Bible tells us that you (point to children) **are happy at church and I** (point to self) **am happy at church. Who is happy at church?** Encourage children to say the Bible Words. Hold the mirror in front of each child as you SAY: **♥ You have friends at church, ___.** PRAY: **Dear God, thank You that we have friends at church. In Jesus’ name, amen.** Have Teddy say good-bye.

Extra Hour Discovery Time (20–25 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **continue exploring the theme, I have friends at church.**

Focus

♥ I have friends at church.

Puppet Fun Friends at Church

Go with Teddy to individual children or small groups of children. **Hi! My name is Teddy. I like to go to church. I have fun with my friends at church. We build with blocks and sing songs about Jesus. Do you have fun with your friends at church?** Invite verbal children to respond. **I am happy at church. Can you say those words with me?** Encourage children to say the Bible Words. **Thank you for being my friends.**

Materials

Teddy the bear puppet



Something More!

Let children play with the peekaboo picture board from previous lessons. Encourage them to find pictures of children who are happy at church.

Materials

modeling dough (see Craft Recipes printable file on the CD Teacher Helps for dough recipes), child-size rolling pins, cookie cutters



Fun with Dough

Let children have fun with modeling dough. Show the children how to use their hands to poke, press, and roll the dough. As they play, SAY: **It's fun to have friends at church. We can do lots of fun things with our friends at church. We are happy at church!** Older children may enjoy using rolling pins or cookie cutters with the dough. Tell children not to eat the dough.

1s will enjoy feeling and poking the dough.

2s will do the above and may use rolling pins and cookie cutters.

Digging with Friends



In the sand table, bury several plastic toys. Tell children to dig with plastic spoons to find the items. As they play, SAY: **It's fun to dig in the sand. I'm glad ♥ we have friends at church we can play with.** Encourage verbal children to name the items they find. When all the items have been dug up, allow the children to bury the items and dig for them again. **It's fun to play with our friends at church. Are you happy at church? I am happy at church!** Invite verbal children to say the Bible Words with you.

1s will enjoy digging for items.

2s will do the above, name items, and say the Bible Words.

Materials

sand table (or large tub with play sand), several plastic toys, plastic spoons (or shovels)



Circle of Friends

Before class, print "I have friends at church" on the outer rim of paper plates, one per child. Punch a hole in each plate, string with yarn, and tie. Cut out magazines pictures of happy children or provide stickers of children.

Give the children the plates and read the words. Let children choose pictures to glue onto their plates or let them choose stickers to press on. While children work, SAY: **I'm glad ♥ we have friends at church. Look at all the friends we have at church! ___ (child's name) is our friend and ___ (child's name) is our friend.** Be sure to say all the children's names.

1s and 2s will choose pictures or stickers to put on their plates.

Materials

paper plates, marker, hole punch, yarn, scissors, magazines (or stickers of children), glue stick



Teaching Tip

If you use stickers, use small paper plates.

NOTE: *Family Together Time* is also available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

Saying Good-bye

Give parents copies of *Family Together Time* issue 4 from the CD and craft activities their children may have done. Tell each child, **Good-bye. See you next week!**