

**INFANT/
TODDLERS**



**FIRST STEPS
NURSERY PROGRAM**

LEADER'S GUIDE

VOLUME 2



FIRST STEPS

nursery program

Welcome!

We are so excited to introduce you to **Volume 2** of the **First Steps Nursery Program!** This program provides insight and curriculum based on proven methods of teaching the littlest learners in your church and encouragement for their parents to keep the lesson going throughout the week.

Your church nursery should be so much more than a room. It should be a comprehensive ministry aimed at helping to lay a necessary foundation for spiritual growth and development. The information provided within this program

is intended to be a springboard from which you can jump into a vibrant personal ministry to the families of babies in your congregation. Adapt this curriculum to meet the specific needs of your ministry and use the tools provided to help your church empower parents to begin forming a foundation of teaching their children biblical truths at home.



CHURCH + HOME
WORKING TOGETHER =
GENERATIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

D6 IS DEUTERONOMY 6

Deuteronomy 6:5-9 (ESV)

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise . . . You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

DISCIPLESHIP AT CHURCH

NURSERY PROGRAM FEATURES

First Steps Nursery Program is an all-inclusive guide for establishing and maintaining a teaching nursery ministry in the local church.

The program materials provide help for setting up a nursery, selecting equipment, recruiting and training staff, teaching toddlers, encouraging parents, and so much more.

One highlight is an emphasis on prayer and Scripture encouragement ideas for the parents and teachers of babies.



CONTENTS:

First Steps Leader's Guide

Teaching Resources

- Bird puppet
- Butterfly teether
- Instrument
- Lesson text posters
- Prayer posters
- Heartprint posters

DISCIPLESHIP AT HOME

CUDDLE CARDS

Weekly tools that correlate with the monthly Heartprints

Send one card home each week



Purchase one set for each child in the class

Child-friendly image on the front with parenting tools on the back

Heartprints are foundational biblical truths that provide a monthly focus for prayer and classroom teaching.

Biblical encouragement for parents.

Classroom Connections show something being done in the classroom this month to help you bridge the gap between lessons at church and learning at home.

MONTHLY PARENT PAGE

FIRST STEPS

parent page

SEPTEMBER

HEARTPRINT: GOD MADE EVERYTHING

PRAYER EMPHASIS: Father, help my child recognize You as Creator of all things and one day choose to follow You all the days of his life.

BIBLE TRUTH: God is amazing! He made everything (John 1:3).

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR YOU:

Have you ever considered that the same God who created everything and called it good also calls you one of His favorites? The same God who flung the stars across the sky knows you and wants to be your friend. He knows your child too. Don't underestimate the impact you can have on your child's spiritual development today. You don't have to wait until she is speaking in sentences or can read the Bible herself. Making sure your relationship with the Lord is strong is one of the best things you can do. In addition to that, you can begin saying biblical truths in her presence and reinforcing basic Bible words and concepts. The Heartprints being taught in our class, as well as your emphasis at home, will be useful for helping to establish a strong biblical foundation for your child to one day choose to follow our amazing God who made everything!

TEACHABLE MOMENTS:

Deuteronomy 6:5-9 highlights God's plan for you to capture teachable moments with your child through everyday activities of life. Use these suggestions to enjoy teachable moments with your little one in light of this month's Heartprint.

- If your child is ready to say words, encourage her to repeat all or part of the Heartprint when you say it.
- Look for opportunities to reinforce the Heartprint as you feed your child. (God made the apples in our applesauce. **God Made Everything**.)
- Go for a walk and point out various examples in creation. Say the Heartprint often while enjoying being outdoors together.
- Place pictures of things God made near the places you change diapers or feed your child. Name each item while you care for her and emphasize the Heartprint.
- Pray and thank God for making everything. If your child can talk, encourage her to say the Bible truth with you. Allow her to repeat each word after you.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS:

September's class activities include this fun song. Sing it often with your child to emphasize the Heartprint. Sing this song to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell."

God made the trees.
God made the trees.

He made everything.
God made the trees.

Replace trees with other words from creation and repeat the song (flowers, colors, animals, food, etc.).

Don't neglect to step aside from life's busyness in order to appreciate the wonder of creation.

A simple prayer being used in class for the month and suggested for the home too.

Ideas to capture teachable moments at home to help emphasize the Heartprint.

Encouragement and insight with regard to biblical parenting.

PRICING

D6 NURSERY (0-24 Months)

First Steps Nursery Program V2 (annual) (non returnable)	\$119.99
Cuddle Cards (bi-monthly)	\$5.99
Cuddle Cards - 5 pack (non returnable)	\$20.99
First Steps Teaching Program Book (book only)*	\$59.99
Extra Teacher resources* – posters, puppet, 1 teether, 1 instrument	\$34.99
Extra Student resources* – 6 butterfly teethers, 6 instruments	\$24.99

*Additional and replacement resources available to full program users only



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