

## BIBLE STORY

### PSALM 111:1

"I will give thanks to the Lord  
with my whole heart."

## SAY THIS

**WHO CAN YOU THANK  
FOR EVERYTHING?**

**I CAN THANK GOD  
FOR EVERYTHING.**

## DO THIS



### MORNING TIME

When you go in your child's room this month say, "Good morning, [child's name]! Who does Mommy/Daddy love? Mommy/Daddy loves you!" Tickle your child's tummy. "I'm so thankful God gave you to me!"



### DRIVE TIME

As you drive, take turns with your child thanking God for things you see out of the window. You can thank God for the sun, clouds, birds, grocery store, stop sign, and everything you see, because we can thank God for everything!



### CUDDLE TIME

Cuddle up with your child this month and pray, "Dear God, I have so much to be thankful for, like getting to be [child's name]'s mom/dad. Thank You for this privilege. Please help me teach him/her to love You and be thankful. I love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."



### BATH TIME

Hold up things in the bathing area that your child can name. Say, "Thank You, God, for (splash water). Thank You, God, for (hold up soap). Thank You, God, for (hold up toy). Thank You, God, for (hold up washcloth)." Continue doing this throughout bath time.

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Parenting is hard. Just when you think you understand your child, everything changes. And then you have to get re-acquainted with them and figure out a new way to parent. It might be helpful to know that every child at every phase is asking a unique and fundamental question. How you answer that question for your child will communicate the one thing they need most: LOVE.

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This is an excerpt from the phase guide:  
*Parenting your New Baby* by Kristen Ivy  
and Reggie Joiner.

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### ONE QUESTION YOUR TODDLER IS ASKING

Your toddler's changing ability is a crisis—for you, and for them. This is a season filled with uncertainty, imperfection, and even failure as they struggle to keep up with all their newly developing skills. Your two-year-old is asking one major question:  
“AM I ABLE?”

As the parent of a toddler who may scream more than you imagined, sleep less than you had hoped, or make more messes than you thought possible, you may feel overwhelmed at times. But remember this—In order to give your toddler the love

they need, you really only need to do one thing:  
EMBRACE their physical needs.

When you embrace your toddler's physical needs, you . . . communicate that they are safe, establish that the world can be trusted, and demonstrate that they are worth loving.

You are probably doing more than you realize to show your toddler how much you love them.

What are the ways you already show up consistently to meet their physical needs?

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