

Being A Good Role Model

Dear Parents,

Significant adults are role models for young children. Although at times preschoolers may seem not to be paying attention, they are listening and watching closely. Being a positive role model is something to take seriously. Most of us are careful that the child's physical, social, emotional, and cognitive needs of development are met. But what about the spiritual needs of young children? Being a good role model includes the area of spiritual development. Being your child's earliest teachers, you can help develop positive attitudes about church, God, Jesus, and the Bible.

- Show excitement about going to church. Talk ahead of time about how special the teachers are, and how happy they will be to see your preschooler. Name some fun things your child can do at his room at church, such as play with friends, hear Bible stories, sing songs, and play with toys.
- Remember that preschoolers are literal-minded. They equate what they hear with what they already know. They learn from what they can see and experience. For example, use the word *church* rather than *God's house* to identify the place of worship.
- Show delight in God's natural world. Take every opportunity to help your child be aware of the things God made.
- Thank God for your child and other family members. Thank God for the teachers and friends at church.
- Communicate with teachers at church about the Bible-learning activities and experiences they offer to help teach Bible truths. At home talk about the activities with your child. Recall the Bible story from the previous Sunday.
- Let your child see you reading the Bible. Help your child recognize that the Bible is a special book.

