



God is With Me at Home

Lesson 1: Accepting and expressing God's love in the family home.

A home is a place where a family lives together. Our house should be a place of safety and shelter from the elements. The kind of home God planned is filled with people who love him and love each other. Infants and toddlers can relate to family interaction and love, safety, shelter.

Scripture: Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Psalm 127:1

Class Schedule

(45 minutes)

Welcome Time (15 minutes)

On the mat in the soft corner. Time to settle in and free play. Music or singing.

Bible Time and Lesson (20 minutes total)

At the table

- **Bible Time**
- **Lesson:** Talk about how God gives us homes to live in and families who live in houses together and love each other. Keep in mind that builders build houses from brick and wood but it is God who makes a house a true home. A truly happy home is one where family members love and obey God.
- **Craft:** (optional) Make something to do with a house.
- **Snack:** Water and any simple snack will do (raisins, crackers, vegetables or fruit).

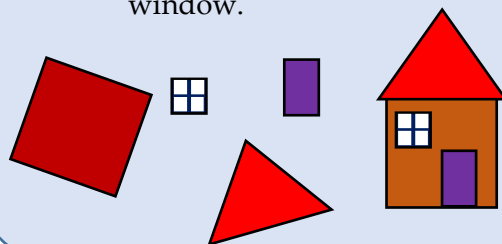
Closing (10 minutes)

On the mat in the soft corner Quiet activities to settle down. Quiet music or nature sounds.

Teaching Items to Collect

(Some are in the Theme Boxes)

- Doll House
 - Doll Family
 - Father
 - Mother
 - Grandparents
 - Children
 - Babies
- Wooden blocks to make houses.
- Pictures of Mummy and Daddy Faces (Daddy's face has sandpaper glued on it for rough beard).
- Shapes House puzzle. Cut a foam sheet or paper into shapes so children can put together to form houses: Square house, triangle roof, rectangle door, square window.





1. Welcome Time

(15 minutes) *On the mat in the soft corner*
Time to settle in and enjoy free play.
Focus conversation on houses. Try building houses with simple blocks. Look at picture books of animals and their homes. “Drive” cars from home to church.

- Bubbles/toys/picture books
- Welcome each by name
- Mirrors, Peep Tube, Vehicles
- Bell to indicate class is about to start

2. Bible Time

When you move to the table spend the first 5 minutes in routines that you repeat each week.

- Pat the bible
- Find Jesus picture (sticker) in bible. Take time to talk about Jesus as our friend.
- “Read” - God is with _____. Filling the blank with the child’s name and members of his/her family.
- Sing B-I-B-L-E

Vocabulary:

- Family (Daddy, Mummy, Sister, Brother, Baby)
- House/Home
- “I love you.”
- Shapes (square, triangle, rectangle)

Sensory:

- Knock on door
- Daddy’s scratch face
- Wooden blocks

3. Bible Lesson

(15 minutes) *At the table*

- Use wooden blocks or shapes puzzle to build a house.
- Use the doll house to guide the children in exploring what a family does at home.
 - Show pictures of families.
 - Use dolls to show each family member arriving at the home and going inside.
 - Move the dolls between rooms and use them to act out what happens in each room.
 - Eating in the kitchen or dining room
 - Sleeping in the bedrooms
 - Relaxing in the lounge
 - Playing with toys in the play room
- As you are exploring the home use dolls to talk about and show Godly interaction between family members:
 - Using manners such as allowing others to go first, saying thank-you/excuse me/etc.
 - Expressing love to each other (saying I love you, giving hugs and kisses).
 - Praying together (table, bedtime, other)
- Toddlers might enjoy moving the doll family from outside the house to inside in various scenarios:
 - Use a spray mist bottle and let it “rain”. The doll family can rush into their house.
 - The family can come inside the house and bundle up in blankets and get warm.
 - Mum or dad calling children inside to eat.
 - Come inside when they are sleepy.
- Craft (optional): Any craft showing a house.
- Prayer: Fold hands and close eyes to pray.
- Snack: If children are enjoying the role-play and pretending then “invite” the doll family to sit and enjoy the snack with you today.

4. Closing

(10 minutes) *On the mat in the soft corner.* Quiet activities to settle down

- Cuddle the baby dolls and “pray with them” as you put them to bed.



Suggested Songs for this Lesson:

Note: Infants and toddlers enjoy the rhythm and melody of song but they are not critics of the teacher's abilities! It's fine if you sing the same tune every time, make up your own tune or even just say the words in a poetic or fun way. Just have fun with it and put the children's needs above your own shyness.

I Live in a House

I live in a house of *wood or rock.
Stand at the door and knock-knock-knock
Inside you will find my family
Right in the middle you'll find ME.

**Substitute another building material instead of wood if appropriate to where the children live.*

Tune: I'm a Little Teapot

Action: (toddlers might join you) Line 1 form your hands like a rooftop. When you say knock-knock-knock rap your knuckles on the table to make the sound. Point to yourself when you say "ME".

Night-Night Little _____

Night-night little baby
God loves you.
He watches over you all night through.

Tune: Bah-bah Black Sheep

Action: Use this song for the dollhouse when the parents put the babies to bed

My Loving Family

God loves Daddy. God loves Mother
God loves little sister and brother.
Thank you, God for giving me.
My loving family.

I love Daddy. I love Mother.
I love little sister and brother.
Thank you, God, for giving me.
My loving family.

Tune: Make up your own tune or say as a poem.

Action: Sing as you show dolls or photos of family members.

Are You Sleeping?

Are you sleeping? Are you sleeping?
Little one. Little one.
Listen to our singing. Listen to our singing.
It's time to wake up! It's time to wake up!

Tune: Frere Jacques/Are Sleeping, Brother John.

Action: Use this song for the dollhouse when the parents put the babies to bed.

Then the infants and toddlers in class can mimic sleeping by yawning, covering the toy animal with a blanket. After this dramatic activity you can all "sleep" a bit and then mimic the excitement of waking up for a new day. Do this over and over if the children enjoy it. This never gets old for little ones.

We Say Kind Words

In our house we say kind words.
In our family.
In our house we say kind words.
In our family.
With a *thank-you here and a thank-you there.
Thank-you, thank-you everywhere.
In our house we say kind words.
In our family.

**Substitute "excuse me" or "I'm sorry" or "Yes-Please" or "No-thank-you" or phrases appropriate to where you live.*

Tune: Old McDonald Had a Farm

Action: Use this song in various scenarios as the doll family is interacting in the doll house. For example: Mummy says "thank-you" when child sets the table. Child says "excuse me" if parents are talking and child wants to interrupt.

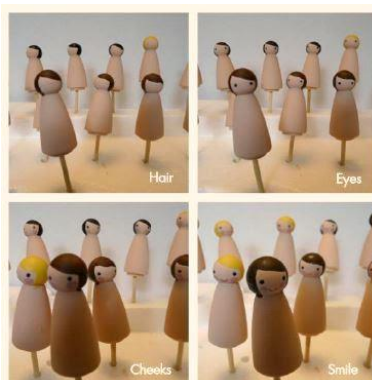




Items to Use to Teach this Lesson



Doll House: A simple dollhouse with a few rooms and big enough parts to be safe for toddlers. If it is too elaborate it will be confusing. You can easily make your own dollhouse by taping or gluing a few empty boxes and cardboard pieces together.



Doll Family: Any collection of dolls that fit into the dollhouse will work. Purchase or make your own. Even cardboard tubes can be made into suitable dolls.



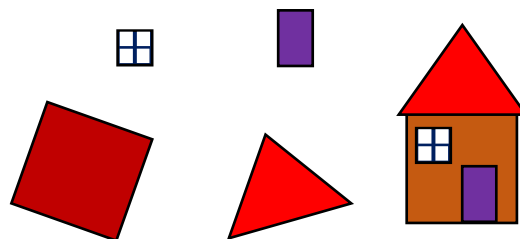
Building blocks to build houses.



Scratchy Face: Glue sandpaper to cheeks of a picture of a Dad so children can feel his scratchy face. Have a picture of a mother with no sandpaper so they can compare.



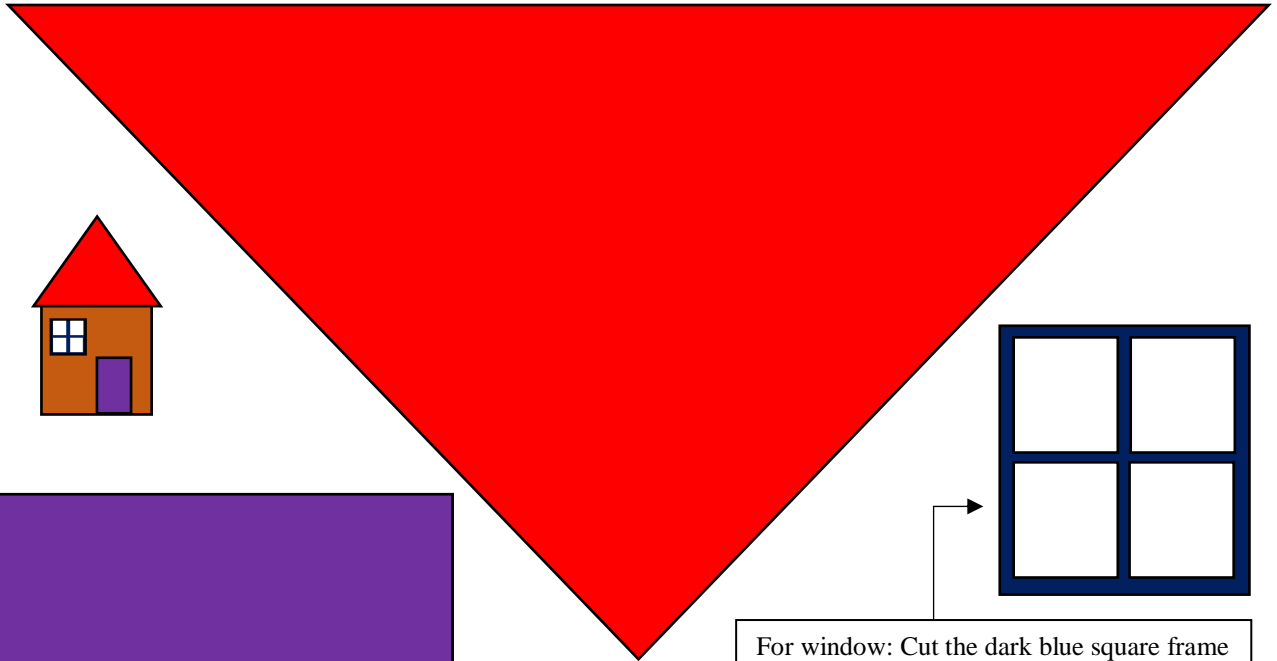
Spray Bottle: Fill with water and use for misting “rain”.



Shapes House Puzzle: A challenge for toddlers. You can make this yourself by cutting shapes from foam sheets. You can use paper but the foam sheets are more durable and easy for small fingers to work with. A pattern is provided on next page.



Shapes House Puzzle Pattern: Cut shapes from foam sheets or paper.



For window: Cut the dark blue square frame first and then cut white pains and glue on top of the frame. Making one unit like this is easiest for little ones to put together in puzzle.

