



GOD MADE YOU.

Say the following rhyme as you rock or change the baby.

**One, two, God loves you!
(Repeat)**

WORDS FOR BABY

"Baby, God loves you! Nothing can ever separate you from God's love!"



BASIC TRUTH

GOD LOVES ME.

BOTTOM LINE

GOD LOVES YOU.

BIBLE WORDS

“Nothing at all can ever separate us from God’s love.”
Romans 8:39, NIrV

We have provided three playtimes to teach the monthly bottom line through one-on-one play. Repeat each activity as long as there is interest. Remember, toddlers LOVE repetition.

MONTHLY PLAYTIMES:

- I See You
- Love Clap
- God Loves You

1. I SEE YOU

WHAT YOU NEED: Plastic tub; hand mirror; large pom-poms in various colors- Don't have pom-poms? Use your clean laundry basket to play with your child as you fold some clothes

WHAT YOU DO: Before introducing the tub to the children, hide the mirror inside the tub. Help your child find the mirror so they can see themselves. Continue as long as there is interest.

WHAT YOU SAY: “Come sit with me. I have something I want you to see. Look inside my tub. Do you see you? Where are you? (*Push some pom-poms or clothes aside.*) There you are. (*Let the pom-poms or clothes fall back.*) Where did you go? There you are. I see you! Do you know who else sees you all the time? God! God made you, and He loves you.”

2. LOVE CLAP

WHAT YOU DO: Sit one-on-one with your child. Clap your hands and help toddlers to clap their hands to the rhythm of the words. Continue as long as there is interest.

WHAT YOU SAY: “Come and sit with me. Can you clap your hands? Let’s clap while I say a fun rhyme. Ready? One, two, God loves you! Now you do it. One, two, God loves you! Yay!”

3. GOD LOVES YOU

WHAT YOU NEED: Ring stacker or blocks

WHAT YOU DO: Gather your child to play with their blocks or a ring stacker toy. Each time a child puts on a ring, say, “God loves you.”

WHAT YOU SAY: “Let’s play together. Can you put a block/ring on? God loves you. Good job! God loves you. Yeah, God loves you!” (*Clap.*)



SAY THIS:

Who loves you?
GOD LOVES YOU.



DO THIS:



MORNING TIME

When you go into your baby's room, pick him/her up, look at him/her, and softly say, "Good morning, sweet [baby's name]. Mommy loves you. Daddy loves you. Grandma loves you. (List other people who love your child.) And God loves you soooooooooo, so much!"



FEEDING TIME

While feeding your baby this month, look at him/her and say, "God made your eyes. God made your nose. God made your smile. God made your . . . (continue listing things). And because God made you, He loves you very, very much."



CUDDLE TIME

Cuddle with your baby this month and pray, "Dear God, Help me remember that You love me, period. Not because of what I do or don't do, but simply because You made me. I'm Yours. And that makes me very special. I want to live believing in Your love for me so [baby's name] will know how much You love him/her and that nothing will ever change that. In Jesus' name, amen."



BATH TIME

As you bathe your baby, look him/her in the eye, smile, and repeat this rhyme. "One, two, God loves you!"

BASIC TRUTH:

GOD LOVES ME.

EVERY MOTHER IS A WOMAN OF VALOR

By Sarah Anderson

"Thank you for making this dinner! But I think I like Dad's spaghetti better." It was so close to being a compliment, but I'll take it. My five-year-old was right. I put forth a good effort, but his dad is the better cook. Mothering can feel like this at times. Like you are just close enough to getting *it*, only you just didn't make the cut. You want to be the best. But these days you'll just settle for someone noticing your effort. "Thanks for trying, but . . ."

Mother's Day can feel like the day to celebrate the golden standard of mothering, leaving you to hope others don't get close enough to see how insecure parenting really makes you feel. I get it. But I'm starting to think on days like Mother's Day, or any day we feel inadequate, the last thing we should be doing is worrying over everything we're not.

Proverbs 31 is famous for the picture it paints of the *ideal* woman. It's today's domestic superhero. The wife of noble character it describes is nothing short of intimidating—getting up before dawn, making her family's clothes, and conducting lucrative business with her handiwork. It's a beautiful picture, but sounds so daunting.

The Hebrew words used to describe this elusive woman are *eshet chayil*, directly translating to "woman of valor." But

interestingly, this doesn't imply something women should *aim* for. **It asserts we've already accomplished it.**

These words are celebratory, meant to be a blessing, spoken over the valorous women in our lives. It isn't, "Next week, work a little harder on making your own bread" It's, "You love our family well—you are a woman of valor! *Eshet chayil!*"

Sure, we may miss the mark sometimes. **But there are a million things we have done and are doing that make us, that make you, worthy of the title, "woman of valor."** For the clean dishes, homework help, warm hugs, listening ears—for the courage to get up each day, every day, and do it all again, *Eshet chayil!* **You are a woman of valor.**

This Mother's Day, instead of feeling inadequate or guilty for what you think you ought to be, but can't muster the strength to actually be, be encouraged. You are doing a great job. You are worth celebrating. And if no one else notices, your Heavenly Father does. He looks at you and says, "*Eshet chayil!*" Nice work, mamas.



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