

## **Become a Better Teacher by Knowing Your Students**

### **Children – 2-3 Years Old**

- Exploring and learning about the world around them
  - Often explores things by trying to put them in their mouths (be careful!)
- Developing large motor skills (leg and upper arms)
  - Perfecting walking
  - Running and jumping
  - Climbing
- Talking
  - Learning to use complete sentences
  - Lots of questions and answers
  - Learning shapes, colors, names of things
- Social Characteristics
  - Plays alone and has difficulty playing with others
  - Is very trusting and affectionate
  - Dependent , but seeks independence
  - Fearful and insecure
  - Self-centered and craves attention
  - Wants to please
  - Seeks affirmation
- Children this age enjoy individual play, side-by-side in a room with others
  - Blocks, simple puzzles, dolls, stuffed animals, balls
- Can do some small group activities for short periods of time
- Spiritual Messages they Need to Hear
  - God Loves you
  - God loves your family
  - God made everything
  - Jesus loves you
  - We can pray
  - God is...(Good/ Truthful/ Caring)
  - Examples of God's creation
  - Adult modeling of God's love