

## THE BLESSING TODDLERS LOVE

Sheri always waited in excited anticipation for her turn to receive the blessing at the beginning of story time. The teacher took her little hands in hers, made eye contact and sang. The first part is to the tune of "Are You Sleeping? Are You Sleeping? Brother John"

"Sheri is God's princess.

Sheri is God's princess.

[For Boys: "Johnny is God's man."]

Jesus loves Sheri. Jesus loves Sheri."

Then the teacher said, "Give me Ten."

Tapping both Sheri's hands, teacher says,

God's Kingdom come.

God's will be done in Sheri's life

As it is in Heaven."

The teacher raised both her arms and Sheri did as well.

"Holy Spirit come!

Give Sheri [Pause... and Sheri would say]

"POWER!"

**Note: If Sheri does not say "POWER", then the teacher says it - NO PRESSURE on the child to perform!!!**

The teacher did power arms and Sheri did too.

**Give Sheri** [Teacher Paused... and Sheri said]

**"LOVE!"**

The Teacher hugged herself - Sheri hugged herself.

**Give Sheri A SOUND, HAPPY MIND!**

The teacher puts her hand on the child's head in blessing.

After this is repeated every Sunday, the child will soon be saying, "Sound, Happy Mind!" and put their own hand on his or her head.

The mother told me Sheri would go home and bless her dolls, the cat, her baby sister, Dad and Mom too.

What always amazes me about this blessing is even if there are 10 children in the class, from 20 months to 3 years old, they all wait in excited anticipation for the blessing.

Sometimes they help say the blessing along with the teacher for the other children. I will sometimes invite the older children to help me bless the younger students or a parent who is observing the class, but only if the child is showing an eagerness and wants to.

THE BLESSING TODDLERS LOVE - I start every class time by blessing each child  
 Start by either holding the child's hands or letting them hold your fingers. If the child doesn't want to, don't insist, gently tap the child's knees or shoulders instead. If the parent is present, bless the parent, then have the parent bless their child.

WORDS	ACTIONS
<p><b>Tune: Are you sleeping</b>  <u>Name of Child</u> is God's man/girl/princess  <u>Name of Child</u> is God's man/girl/princess            Jesus loves <u>Name of Child</u>            Jesus loves <u>Name of Child</u></p>	 <p><b>Bounce/sway hands in time with song beat. Notice the eye contact! Very important.</b></p>
<p><b>Spoken: Give me ten!</b></p> <p><b>Spoken</b>            God's Kingdom come.            God's will be done in <u>Name</u>'s life as it is in heaven.</p>	<p><b>Hold up both hands for "high ten"</b></p>  <p><b>Tap hands in time with words.</b></p>
<p><b>Hands up high.</b>  <b>Holy Spirit come.</b></p>	
<p><b>Give <u>Name</u> POWER</b></p>	 <p><b>Power arms</b></p>
<p><b>Give <u>Name</u> LOVE</b></p>	<p><b>Hug self</b></p> 
<p><b>Give <u>Name</u> A SOUND, HAPPY MIND.</b>  <b>Clap and smile</b></p>	