

Infants obviously can't thank you for your loving care. However, they express a form of gratitude through smiles, coos, and cuddles. Toddlers show their thanks through giggles and hugs and an occasional parroted "thank you." By age 2, some children have formed the habit of saying "please" and "thank you." But you're more likely to see gratitude expressed through invitations to play and warm laughter. By encouraging thankfulness in children's lives, you're also laying a foundation for contentment with and appreciation for all they've been given.

INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Listen to praise songs.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Bible Exploration	The River Look at the teaching picture, and hear what happened.	scissors, glue Teacher Pack: "River Jordan" teaching picture, blue tissue paper	Cut the tissue paper to the size of the dry riverbed on the teaching picture. It should be large enough to cover the entire riverbed, including the people walking on dry ground. Glue one end of the tissue paper to the dark line in the bottom-left corner of the teaching picture to make a flap that can be lifted as you tell what happened.
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Water, Water Everywhere Touch washcloths to remember what happened.	3 or 4 washcloths, water, shallow pan	
	Thank You, God Hear a song about giving thanks to God.		
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 12 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.



► Bible Point Remember to thank God.

Key Verse
"Humble yourselves,
therefore, under God's
mighty hand, that
he may lift you up
in due time. Cast all
your anxiety on him
because cares for you"
(1 Peter 5:6-7).

Weaving Faith Into Life
Children will remember to thank God.

•••••

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Bible Exploration	Crossing the River See and hear about the Israelites crossing the Jordan River.	Bible, roll of masking tape, spray bottle of water, scissors, glue Teacher Pack: "River Jordan" teaching picture, blue tissue paper	Cut the tissue paper to the size of the dry riverbed on the teaching picture. It should be large enough to cover the entire riverbed, including the people walking on dry ground. Glue one end of the tissue paper to the dark line in the bottom-left corner of the teaching picture to make a flap that can be lifted as you tell what happened. Put 2 parallel lines of masking tape—about 2 feet long—about 1 foot apart on the floor of the area where you'll gather toddlers.
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Five Little Israelites Do a finger play about the Israelites crossing the Jordan River.		
	Thank You, God, for My Five Senses Sing a song thanking God for his gifts.		
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 12 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.

The "Growing With Jesus" page at the end of each lesson includes an in-class craft or activity on one side and a take-home page for parents on the other side. We want to ensure all the information on the parent pages is retained, so we've made some adjustments to activities that require cutting. These pages may require a little assembly for parents to use at home, and we've included envelopes in the supply lists to keep each child's pieces together.



2-YEAR-OLD

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Bible Exploration	Crossing the River Jordan Use water and motions to help tell what happened.	Bible, dishpan of water, paper towels, scissors, glue Teacher Pack: "River Jordan" teaching picture, blue tissue paper	Cut the tissue paper to the size of the dry riverbed on the teaching picture. It should be large enough to cover the entire riverbed, including the people walking on dry ground. Glue one end of the tissue paper to the dark line in the bottom-left corner of the teaching picture to make a flap that can be lifted as you tell what happened. Fill a dishpan with water.
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	A Path Across the Water Paint pictures of the river, and create a path to cross.	newspaper, blue tempera paint, glue, a few small containers, 1 paintbrush per child, 5 or 6 small craft sticks per child, 1 paint smock per child, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "God Gives a Path" handout (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 12 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Cover a table with newspaper. Pour paint into several small containers.
	We're Going to Cross the River Do an action rhyme about crossing the river.		
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.

The "Growing With Jesus" page at the end of each lesson includes an in-class craft or activity on one side and a take-home page for parents on the other side. We want to ensure all the information on the parent pages is retained, so we've made some adjustments to activities that require cutting. These pages may require a little assembly for parents to use at home, and we've included envelopes in the supply lists to keep each child's pieces together.



The Israelites Cross the Jordan River

Joshua 3:1-4:24



BIBLE BACKGROUND FOR LEADERS

God Guides a Nation at the Jordan River

.....

Parts of this event may seem like a rerun of the Israelites' crossing of the Red Sea 40 years earlier. Remember, however, that apart from Joshua and Caleb, all of the people crossing the Jordan River were no older than children when Israel crossed the Red Sea. This totally new experience must have reminded them of the stories their parents had told them about the miracle of crossing the Red Sea.

Notice that the Jordan River was not just a trickling stream—it was at "flood stage." In the area of Jericho, it would have been 10 to 12 feet deep and the current quite strong.

Israel Memorializes God's Miracle

The Israelites built a stone memorial with the rocks taken from the center of the Jordan River. The memorial would remind people of the wonders God had done for the Israelites as they entered the Promised Land, and the 12 stones together would remind them of the 12 tribes joined together as one nation.

The last verse of today's passage, Joshua 4:24, tells us why God dried up the Jordan for the people to cross: "so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the Lord is powerful and so that you might always fear the Lord your God." God wanted his people to fear him—to give him the worship and service he deserved. Remembering what God had done would give them encouragement and faith when they faced the difficulties of conquering this new land.

The Jesus Connection

As we grow in relationship with Christ, we become more Christ-like. We can testify that we have been renewed and delivered from our different lives of the past.

Reread Joshua 4:24. Note the public display of power that God left as a reminder of his love and power. In times of darkness, it's often helpful to rest in the truth of what we have experienced in the past. Encounters with our Savior remind us that he is with us. Write a prayer of thanks for the ways God has been present in your life. When you talk to God this week, start by thanking him for these great things, and add to the list as God continues to work in your life. You can write your prayer in the lines below.

<u> </u>	
<u> </u>	

Fall Quarter Lesson 12





INFANT



Sing and Celebrate

What You'll Do

Sing or listen to "Oh, Remember to Give Thanks Unto God" (track 16 on the CD) to the tune of "Oh, Be Careful" anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with infants. After repeating the song twice, change "unto God" to "little [baby's name]," and continue to sing as the music plays.

Oh, remember to give thanks unto God.
Oh, remember to give thanks unto God.
For the Father up above is looking down in love.
Oh, remember to give thanks unto God.
(Repeat 2x.)

Afterward, say: **PREMEMBER TO THANK GOD, little** [child's name].

Sing "Give Thanks to the Lord" (not on the CD) to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell" anytime during the lesson. Hold a tired or fussy baby in your arms while singing the lullaby calmly. After singing the song through several times, change the words "this new day" to the baby's name and continue singing.

Give thanks to the Lord.
Give thanks to the Lord.
Thank you, God, for this new day.
Give thanks to the Lord.

Afterward, say: Always ► REMEMBER TO THANK GOD. I thank God for you, little [baby's name].



Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player **Teacher Pack**CD: "Oh, Remember to
Give Thanks Unto God"
(track 16)



The River Supplies

scissors glue **Teacher Pack** "River Jordan" teaching picture blue tissue paper

The River Easy Prep

Cut the tissue paper to the size of the dry riverbed on the teaching picture. It should be large enough to cover the entire riverbed, including the people walking on dry ground. Glue one end of the tissue paper to the dark line in the bottom-left corner of the teaching picture to make a flap that can be lifted as you tell what happened.

Water, Water Everywhere Supplies

3 or 4 washcloths water shallow pan



The River

What You'll Do

Sit on the floor near an infant. Show the baby the "River Jordan" teaching picture with the tissue paper covering the dry riverbed.

Say: Joshua and the Israelites needed to cross the big river. Help baby point to the people on the riverbank. Then help baby point to the river. God helped the Israelites cross the river. When the people stepped in the water, the river opened up. God changed the river. Pull back the tissue paper, showing the people walking on dry ground. Then the people walked across the River Jordan! Help baby point to the people walking across the river. The people said, "Thank you, God. Thank you for helping us cross the river." REMEMBER TO THANK GOD, just as Joshua and the Israelites thanked him.



Water, Water Everywhere

What You'll Do

Sit on the floor or at a table with an infant. Set a shallow pan nearby. Pour a small amount of water into the pan.

Say: The Israelites wanted to cross the river. But there was too much water. Help baby touch and splash the water in the pan. Use a washcloth to soak up the water. God moved the water for the Israelites. Now the Israelites can cross the river and not get wet. Feel the wet ground. Touch baby's hand to the washcloth. Feel the dry ground. Touch baby's hand to the pan where the water was. The Israelites thanked God for helping them cross the river.

REMEMBER TO THANK GOD when he helps you, too.

Pour more water on the pan to repeat the activity with dry washcloths several times.



Thank You, God

What You'll Do

Sing "Thank You, God" (not on the CD) to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" as you rock an infant or change a diaper:

Thank you, God, for giving me
The sun, and the moon, and the apple trees.
Thank you, God, for your beautiful world.
Thank you for the boys and girls.
Thank you, God, for everything.
Thank you, God, we like to sing.

Afterward, say: Always ▶ REMEMBER TO THANK GOD.

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.

TODDLER

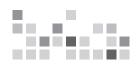


Sing and Celebrate

What You'll Do

Sing or listen to "Oh, Remember to Give Thanks Unto God" (track 16 on the CD) to the tune of "Oh, Be Careful" anytime during the lesson. Have toddlers gently rock side to side as you sing. After repeating the song twice, change "unto God" to "little [children's names]," and continue to sing as the music plays.

Oh, remember to give thanks unto God.
Oh, remember to give thanks unto God.
For the Father up above is looking down in love.
Oh, remember to give thanks unto God.
(Repeat 2x.)



Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 12 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player **Teacher Pack:** CD: "Oh, Remember to Give Thanks Unto God" (track 16)



Crossing the River Supplies

Bible roll of masking tape spray bottle of water scissors glue

Teacher Pack

"River Jordan" teaching picture blue tissue paper

Crossing the River Easy Prep

Cut the tissue paper to the size of the dry riverbed on the teaching picture. It should be large enough to cover the entire riverbed, including the people walking on dry ground. Glue one end of the tissue paper to the dark line in the bottom-left corner of the teaching picture to make a flap that can be lifted as you tell what happened. Put 2 parallel lines of masking tape—about 2 feet long each—about 1 foot apart on the floor of the area where you'll gather toddlers.

Afterward, say: ▶ REMEMBER TO THANK GOD.

Sing "Give Thanks to the Lord" (not on the CD) to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell" anytime during the lesson. After singing the song through several times, choose a toddler to sing with you. Face the toddler, and hold both of the child's hands in your hands. Gently swing your arms from side to side as you sing, changing the words "this new day" to the child's name. Continue with each toddler so that everyone has a turn.

Give thanks to the Lord.
Give thanks to the Lord.
Thank you, God, for this new day.
Give thanks to the Lord.

Afterward, say: Always ▶ REMEMBER TO THANK GOD.



BIRI F

EXPLORATION

Crossing the River

What You'll Do

Sit on the floor with a couple of toddlers. Open your Bible to Joshua 3, and show toddlers the words. Tell them the Bible is God's special book.

Say: The Bible says Joshua and the Israelites needed to cross the River Jordan. Show toddlers the "River Jordan" teaching picture with the tissue paper covering the dry riverbed. Point to the Israelites on the teaching picture. Then point to the river. There's a lot of water there! "How will we cross the river?" the people asked. Joshua said, "Don't worry. God will take care of us."

When the people stepped in the water, the river stopped. The water disappeared, and the people could see dry ground. Have a child fold back the tissue paper, showing the dry ground. Now the people could cross the river—without even getting their feet wet! The people said, "Thank you, God. Thank you for helping us cross the river." Let's see if you can cross the river here in our room.

Encourage toddlers to walk between the lines of tape. As children walk, spray some water away from the children so they can hear and see the mist without getting wet. When they get to the end of the tape, praise the children for crossing the river as the Israelites did.

Say: ► REMEMBER TO THANK GOD for helping you cross the river, and thank him for helping you every day.

Fall Quarter

Lesson 12

Infants, Toddlers & 2s









Five Little Israelites

What You'll Do

Do the following finger play while sitting near a toddler.

Say: Five little Israelites needed to get across. (hold up five fingers, and wiggle them) They looked up to Joshua. He was the boss. (raise head as if looking up at someone) The Israelites said, "We don't want to get wet!" (shake your head back and forth) But Joshua said, "There's no need to fret. (hold up one finger, and wag it back and forth)

God will get us to the other side. (point up)

God will keep us safe and dry." (hug self)

Then the water opened up and moved out of sight. (hold hands in front of you with palms together; then push them out and away from each other)

The people marched across in broad daylight. (make walking motions with your fingers)

The Israelites then began to pray. (fold hands in prayer)

"Thank you, God, for this glorious day." (bow head, keeping hands folded)

Afterward, say: REMEMBER TO THANK GOD, just as the Israelites did.

Thank You, God, for My Five Senses

What You'll Do

Sing "Thank You, God, for My Five Senses" (not on the CD) to the tune of "Bingo." As you sing, lead toddlers in the motions in parentheses and in clapping hands to the rhythm of the song during the lines "Thank you, thank you, God."

Thank you, God, for my two eyes (point to eyes)
And all the things I see-o. (point to eyes)

Thank you, thank you, God,

Thank you, thank you, God,

Thank you, thank you, God,

For all the things I see-o. (point to eyes)

Thank you, God, for my two ears (point to ears)
And all the things I hear-o. (point to ears)

Thank you, thank you, God,

Thank you, thank you, God,

Thank you, thank you, God,

For all the things I hear-o. (point to ears)



Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 12 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player **Teacher Pack**CD: "Oh, Remember to

Give Thanks Unto God"

(track 16)

Repeat the song using the following words: "for my one nose and all the things I smell-o," "for my fingers and all the things I touch-o," and "for my red tongue and all the things I taste-o."

Say: God has given us so much to be thankful for. Let's always ▶ REMEMBER TO THANK GOD.

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.

2-YEAR-OLD



Sing and Celebrate

What You'll Do

Sing or listen to "Oh, Remember to Give Thanks Unto God" (track 16 on the CD) to the tune of "Oh, Be Careful" anytime during the lesson. Have twos gently rock side to side as they sing. After repeating the song twice, change "unto God" to "little [children's names]," and continue to sing as the music plays.

Oh, remember to give thanks unto God.
Oh, remember to give thanks unto God.
For the Father up above is looking down in love.
Oh, remember to give thanks unto God.
(Repeat 2x.)

Afterward, say: ▶ REMEMBER TO THANK GOD.

Sing "Give Thanks to the Lord" (not on the CD) to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell" anytime during the lesson. Have children hold hands and walk around in a circle while singing. After children have learned the song, choose a child to stand in the center of the circle. Let that child choose something he or she is thankful for. Then replace the words, "this new day" with the thing the child chooses. Repeat this process until each child has had a turn in the circle.



Give thanks to the Lord.
Give thanks to the Lord.
Thank you, God, for this new day.
Give thanks to the Lord.

Afterward, say: Always ▶ REMEMBER TO THANK GOD.



Crossing the River Jordan

What You'll Do

Gather twos together. Open your Bible to Joshua 3, and show children the words. Tell them the Bible is God's special book.

Say: The Bible says Joshua and the Israelites needed to cross the River Jordan. Show twos the "River Jordan" teaching picture with the tissue paper covering the dry riverbed. There's a lot of water there. "How will we cross the river?" the people asked. Joshua said, "Don't worry. God will take care of us."

The Israelites didn't want to get in the water. Let's see what happens when we get in water. Allow each child to put his or her hand in the dishpan of water. When you put your hand in the water, your hand got wet. The Israelites got across the water, but they didn't get wet. Let's see what happened. Let children dry their hands with paper towels before you continue.

When the people stepped in the water, the river stopped. The water disappeared, and the people could see dry ground. Let one child fold back the tissue paper on the teaching picture so all the children can see the dry land. The people crossed the river on dry ground. The people said, "Thank you, God. Thank you for helping us cross the river."

Let each child have a turn "walking" his or her fingers across the teaching picture. Lay the tissue paper over the teaching picture again to form the river. Then lead children in doing the motions in parentheses as you say the following rhyme.

Say: The Israelites need to cross the river. What will they do? ("walk" fingers to the edge of the river on the teaching picture)

They don't want to get wet! How will they get through? (shrug shoulders)
God will help them cross. He piles the water high! (fold back the tissue paper to reveal the dry riverbed)

Now they walk on land, and they all stay dry. ("walk" fingers across the dry riverbed)

Afterward, say: We need to **REMEMBER TO THANK GOD**, just as the Israelites did.



Crossing the River Jordan Supplies

Bible dishpan of water paper towels scissors glue

Teacher Pack

"River Jordan" teaching picture blue tissue paper

Crossing the River Jordan Easy Prep

Cut the tissue paper to the size of the dry riverbed on the teaching picture. It should be large enough to cover the entire riverbed. including the people walking on dry ground. Glue one end of the tissue paper to the dark line in the bottom-left corner of the teaching picture to make a flap that can be lifted as you tell what happened. Fill a dishpan with water.



A Path Across the Water Supplies

newspaper
blue tempera paint
glue
a few small containers
1 paintbrush per child
5 or 6 small craft sticks
per child
1 paint smock per child
My Bible Snuggles or 1
copy per child of the
"God Gives a Path"
handout (at the end of
the lesson)

A Path Across the Water Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 12 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Cover a table with newspaper. Pour paint into several small containers.



A Path Across the Water

What You'll Do

Put a paint smock on each child. Let children paint on their handouts to make a Jordan River picture. Encourage children to cover as much of the paper as they wish.

Say: The River Jordan was deep and wide. The Israelites couldn't get across. But God gave them a path of dry ground. Let's make a path across the water for the Israelites to cross. Give paint a minute or so to dry, and then help children glue craft sticks on their handouts to make dry ground. Encourage children to place the sticks together to form a path.

Say: God gave the Israelites a path of dry ground. God gives us good things, too, like loving parents. The Israelites thanked God for what he gave them. We need to
• REMEMBER TO THANK GOD for what he gives us, too.

We're Going to Cross the River

What You'll Do

Tell children that you're all pretending to be the Israelites. Have children echo each line and imitate your motions for the following action rhyme, using the rhythm pattern of "We're Going on a Bear Hunt."

Say: We're going to cross the river (slap hands on legs one at a time as if walking)

To get to the other side. (slap hands on legs one at a time as if walking)

The river is so deep. (hold hands far apart vertically to show "deep")

The river is so wide. (hold hands far apart horizontally to show "wide")

We can't swim through it. (pretend to swim)

We can't walk over it. (march in place, swinging arms up and down)

We can't go around it. (lean side to side as if looking around something)

What will we do? (shrug shoulders, and hold hands out, palms up)

God has the answer. (slap hands on legs one at a time as if walking)

God has the plan. (slap hands on legs one at a time as if walking)

He'll make the water move, (hold hands in front of you with palms together; then push them out and away from each other)

And we'll walk on dry land. (slap hands on legs one at a time as if walking)

Thank you, God! (slap hands on legs one at a time as if walking)

Yippee! (raise hands in air)

Afterward, say: The Israelites thanked God after they crossed the river. We need to • REMEMBER TO THANK GOD, too.

Fall Quarter

Lesson 12

Infants, Toddlers & 2s



Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.



Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)



Growing With Jesus



The Power of "Please" and "Thank You"

.....

In many households please and thank you are known as "magic words." While these words may not make anything mysteriously appear, the effect they have on those who hear them is truly wonderful. As soon as a child is able to make his or her requests known through pointing or words, you can begin to teach the words *please* and *thank* vou. A child who learns to give thanks to those around him or her will naturally learn to give thanks to God.

Your child learned to remember to thank God (from Joshua 3:1–4:24). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

INFANT

Thank You, God

Sing "Thank You, God" to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" as you're rocking your infant or changing his or her diaper:

Thank you, God, for giving me
The sun, and the moon, and the apple trees.
Thank you, God, for your beautiful world.
Thank you for the boys and girls.
Thank you, God, for everything.
Thank you, God, we like to sing.

Afterward, say: Always remember to thank God.

TODDLER

Five Little Israelites

Do the following finger play with your toddler.

Say: Five little Israelites needed to get across. (hold up five fingers, and wiggle them)

They looked up to
Joshua. He was the
boss. (raise head as if
looking up at someone)
"God will get us to the
other side." (point up)
"God will keep us safe
and dry." (hug self)

The water opened up and moved out of sight. (hold palms together; then push them out and away from each other)

The people marched across in broad daylight. (make walking motions with fingers)

The Israelites then began to pray, (fold hands in prayer)

"Thank you, God, for this glorious day." (bow head, hands folded)

2-YEAR-OLD

Cross the River

Together do this action rhyme, using the rhythm pattern of "We're Going on a Bear Hunt."

Say: We're going to cross the river. (slap hands on legs one at a time as if walking)

To get to the other side. (slap hands on legs one at a time as if walking)

The river is so deep. (hold hands apart vertically)

The river is so wide. (hold hands apart horizontally)

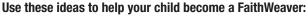
We can't walk over it. (march in place)

What will we do? (shrug shoulders)

God has a plan. (point up)
He'll make the water
move. (push hands out
and away)

Thank you, God! (slap hands on legs one at a time as if walking)

Yippee! (raise hands in air)



- Take a thanksgiving walk through your neighborhood. Give thanks to God for the things you see.
- Learn this new thank-you prayer:

Dear God, thank you for your beautiful world And all the many boys and girls. In Jesus' name, amen.

OK TO COPY

Fall Quarter Lesson 12

Infants, Toddlers & 2s



God Gives a Path God Gives the Israelites a Path of Dry Ground

and God Gives Me Loving Parents



Infants, Toddlers & 2s

Lesson 12

Fall Quarter