

Story Time - Read the story to the children
Lesson 24: JACOB'S DREAM
GENESIS 28:10-22

Jacob left Beersheba and started toward Haran. At sunset he came to a holy place and camped there because it had gotten dark. He took a stone from that place and put it under his head. He laid down to sleep, resting his head on the stone. He had a dream that he saw a ladder like a stairway set up on the earth, and its top reached up to heaven, and angels were going up and coming down on it. And the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac". "The land that you are lying on I will give to you and to your descendants. They will be as numerous as the specks of dust on the earth. They will extend their territory in all directions, and through you and your descendants I will bless all the nations. Remember, I will be with you and protect you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done all that I have promised you." Jacob woke up and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I didn't know it!" He was afraid and said, "What a fearful place this is! This is none other than the house of God; and this is the gate going to heaven." Jacob got up early next morning, took the stone that was under his head, and set it up like a pillar as a memorial. Then he poured olive oil on it to dedicate it to God. He named the place Bethel. (The town there was once known as Luz.) Then Jacob made a vow (which means a promise) to the LORD: "If you will be with me and protect me on the journey I am making and give me food and clothing, and if I return safely to my father's home, then you will be my God. This memorial stone which I have set up will be God's house, and I will give you a tenth of everything you give me."

Here we see Jacob making a vow to God. But, it seems almost like it is a bargain, like maybe Jacob is putting the Lord to the test. He is saying, "If you do what you say, then you will be my God." It is interesting that Jacob would put conditions on His service to the Lord. We can be sure, what God says, He will do. God's Word is more solid than the stone Jacob laid his head on. Please note also, we do not need to make vows (promises) to God. God loves us and blesses us because of His grace and goodness, not because we have done or can do anything to deserve it. We need to be careful not try to earn God's favor by making promises that we may or may not be able to keep!

JACOB'S DREAM

GENESIS 28:10-22



"And he dreamed, and saw a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and he saw the angels of the LORD going up and coming down on it."

GENESIS 28:12

24. JACOB'S DREAM

GENESIS 28:10-22

MEMORY VERSE:

"Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go."

GENESIS 28:15a

Review Questions

True or False

1. Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran, and he came to a place and stayed there that night because it was getting dark. He took one of the trees of that place and put it under his head and laid down to go to sleep.
2. He had a dream where he saw a slide that was set up on the earth, and its top reached up to heaven.
3. He saw the angels of God going up and coming down the ladder.
4. The LORD stood above the ladder and said, "I am the LORD God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; The land that you are lying on I will give to you and your descendants."
5. The LORD also said, "Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and you will have to find your own way back to this land."
6. Jacob woke up from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I didn't know it."
7. He was afraid and said, "What a fearful place this is! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate that goes into heaven."
8. Jacob got up early in the morning and took the blanket that he covered up with and set it up like a pillar and poured oil on top of it.
9. Then Jacob made a promise and said, "This stone that I set up as a memorial will be God's house, and I will give you half of everything you give me."

Questions

1. What did Jacob use for a pillow when he stopped for the night?
2. When he fell asleep and started to dream, what did he see going up into heaven?
3. Who was going up and coming down the ladder?
4. Who did Jacob say was there in that place?
5. What did he call that place? (The house of God, and the gate going into heaven)
6. What did Jacob do with the stone that he used as a pillow? What did he pour on it? Why did he do that?
7. Jacob told God that He would be his God if God did some things. What did Jacob want God to do? (Be with him, protect him on his journey, provide food and clothing for him, bring him safely back to his father's house)
8. What did Jacob say the stone that he set up would be?
9. Out of everything God was going to give Jacob, how much was Jacob going to give back to God? (a tenth – explain that a tenth is one out of every ten – show them with items in the room like crayons, etc.)

Lesson 24 Craft

Stuck Like Glue

Give each child a rock to remind them of Jacob's pillow. With plastic wrap, line the inside of small Dixie paper cups. Have your class put their rocks in the bottom of the paper cup and fill the cup with glue to cover the rock.

Explain to your students that in about a week, the glue will have dried, and they can take their encased rock out and remove the saran wrap. The glue should be pretty easy to see through when completely dry. Explain to your class that God sticks to us and surrounds us like the glue sticks to and surrounds their rocks.

Remind your students that [the Lord will never leave His children](#).

Jacob's Ladder

You will need a 30" piece of string for each child in your class (younger children you may only need 20" – the yarn is in the supply cabinet – if yours does not have any yarn, look in the classroom next door's cabinet. Tie the ends together to make a loop. Teach your class how to make Jacob's ladder out of string. An easy way is to hold the string on both of your thumbs and pinkies forming a square. With each middle finger in turn, take the string stretched across the opposite palm.

For a more complicated ladder use the attached instructions.

Explain that in today's lesson we are going to learn about the real "Jacob's ladder."

Reminder Bracelets (OPTIONAL CRAFT WITH YARN)

Give each student two different colored pieces of yarn about 36" each. Tell them that one piece represents God and the other them. Tie the two pieces together at one end. Have one child hold the knotted end while another child twists the pieces together. The pieces should start to curl up and begin to get tangled. This means you are ready for the next step.

Have the "holder" and the "twister" gently pull to straighten out the yarn. As they do, you (teacher) hold the center between you thumb and index finger. Let them put the two ends together but do not let go. Let the twister take both the knotted end and the unknotted end and hold them together tightly.

Then the teacher lets go and zip! You have a beautiful bracelet to remind you that [the Lord will never leave His children](#). Tie the ends together around one of the child's wrists and explain that this bracelet is a reminder that [the Lord will never leave His children](#).

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for God's ever-presence in our lives. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity to do so.