

Jacob's Dream

The Stairway to Heaven

Ages about 7-11 | Video 6:00 | Group lesson about 25-35 minutes

Central truth God is faithful and near. We can trust him, pray, and choose the next honest, loving step.

Learning goals Recall Jacob's dream and God's promise; describe Jacob's response at Bethel; connect trust in God with a good choice today.

Gather Video access, one handout per child, pencils or crayons, and a Bible.

Watch online [Open this video on Servus Dei](#)

Before watching | 2 minutes

Introduce Jacob, who has left home after deceiving his father and hurting his brother Esau. Ask: What might help someone who feels alone on a journey? Use a pretend example.

Watch and notice

Notice the stone pillow, the stairway and angels, God's words, and Jacob's response in the morning. God's promise comes before Jacob's vow.

Talk together | 6-8 minutes

1. What did Jacob see in his dream?

A stairway reaching toward heaven, with angels going up and down. God spoke to Jacob.

2. What did God promise?

Land for Jacob and his descendants, many descendants, and blessing for all families through them. God promised to be with Jacob and bring him back.

3. How did Jacob respond when he woke?

He was filled with awe. He set up his stone pillow as a pillar, poured oil on it, named the place Bethel, and made a vow.

4. Did the promise make Jacob's deception right?

No. God remained faithful, and Jacob still needed to learn, tell the truth, and repair the harm he had caused.

Then respond and pray Allow 6-8 minutes for a handout or the activity on page 2; finish with the closing prayer.

Lead the response

Jacob's Dream

Short family lesson Watch the video, choose one recall question and one application question, then pray. About 12-18 minutes; the handout is optional.

Choose a handout

Draw & Tell Draw Jacob's dream and one ordinary way to trust God and choose what is right. Invite spoken answers; an adult may write the child's words.

Read & Write Recall the promise and the morning response, then apply trust and honesty to a fictional situation.

Adapt by readiness

Emerging readers: read aloud, invite pointing and drawing, and explain the three story words below.

Confident readers: explain why trusting God includes responsibility for our choices.

One faithful next step | Optional 4 minutes

Use a pretend example: you told a lie about a broken toy. Practice praying for courage, telling the truth to a trusted adult, and offering a sensible repair. Do not request private family stories.

Look for understanding A child recalls the dream, names God's promise to be with Jacob, and suggests a truthful or caring next step.

Closing prayer Faithful God, thank you for being near. When we feel afraid or alone, help us trust you. Give us courage to tell the truth, make amends, and love others. Amen.

At home Choose one good next step: tell the truth, help someone, or pray for a person who feels alone. Share your choice with an adult.

Handout answer notes Dream: stairway and angels. Promise: God will be with Jacob; land, descendants, blessing, and return. Response: pillar, oil, Bethel, and vow. Application answers vary.

Teach with care

The story mentions deception and separation. Use fictional examples; allow children to pass on personal sharing. God's mercy does not approve deception or guarantee an easy life. Jacob does not earn the promise by climbing. The later repair of family relationships is outside this episode.

Words to explain Descendants: children and later generations. Bethel: house of God. Vow: a serious promise made to God.

Sources for the leader

Scripture: [Genesis 28:10-22 \(USCCB\)](#)

God is with me

Jacob's Dream

Jacob heard God's promise in a lonely place. We can turn to God and take one good next step.

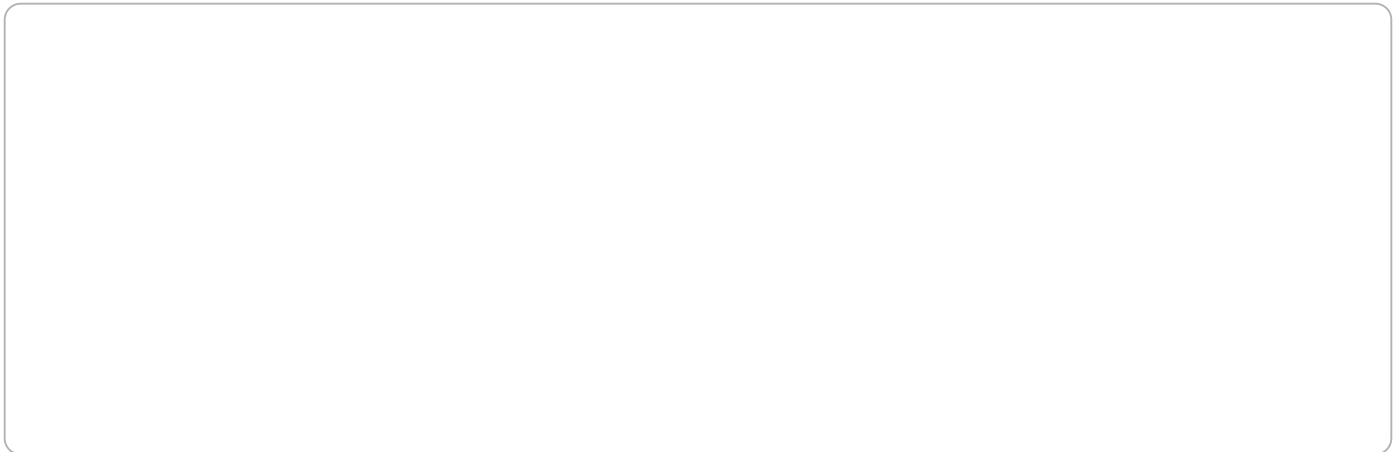
Name _____

Adult helper Read aloud. Invite drawing, pointing, or spoken answers. Writing is optional.

1 Draw Jacob's dream: the stairway, angels, and Jacob resting below.



2 Draw one truthful or loving choice you can make today.



Tell What did God promise Jacob? Tell an adult how the choice in your second picture can help someone.

Pray Faithful God, stay close to me. Help me trust you and choose what is right. Amen.

At home Share your picture and one thing you learned about God or following Jesus.

A promise and a next step

Jacob's Dream

Remember Jacob's dream. Then think about trusting God today.

Name _____

1 Remember the promise

Name two things God promised Jacob. Which promise would comfort someone who feels alone?

God promised ...

2 Remember the morning

How did Jacob respond when he woke? What did he call the place?

Jacob responded by ...

3 Choose a good next step

A child has lied about a broken toy and feels afraid. What could the child pray, say, and do next?

The child could ...

Pray Faithful God, stay close to me. Help me trust you and choose what is right. Amen.

Go deeper Read Genesis 28:15-22 with an adult. Who speaks first: God or Jacob? Why does God's faithfulness invite us to choose what is right?