

# JACOB'S DREAM

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: GENESIS 28:10-22



## The STORY

Read the story of Jacob's dream from the NIV Bible, Genesis 28:10-22.

**Please note:** *The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.*

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- What did Jacob see in his dream? (Jacob saw a stairway going from earth to heaven with angels going up and down on it.)
- Who stood above the stairway? (The Lord.)
- What did the Lord promise Jacob? (Just like the Lord promised to Abraham and Isaac, the Lord promises that all the peoples of the earth would be blessed through Jacob.)

## CRAFT QUESTIONS

**Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: angels on the stairway going up and down from heaven. Engage the children by asking:**

- What would it be like to see such a vision? (Answers may vary.)
- What will heaven look like? (It will have streets paved with gold with crystal walls and be decorated with precious stones. There will be a river of life flowing from the throne of God and God's light will light up everything. See Revelation 21 and 22.)
- What do you think the angels in the coloring page are doing? (Worshiping God.)

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### SNACK QUESTIONS

While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:

- Does God still speak to people in dreams? (Yes. Acts 2:17 says: "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.")
- What did Jacob think of God's dream? (It helped him to know that God is real.)
- How do we know that God is real for us today? (We read about all He did in His Word. We can pray and He answers our prayers. Just like Jacob sensed the presence of the Lord after his dream, we can feel the presence of the Lord in our hearts by faith.)

### WHERE IS JESUS?

*Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.*

Before his dream, Jacob received the promised blessing only through his father Isaac. But in these verses, the Lord appeared to Jacob and repeated to him the promise originally given to Abraham. From Jacob's seed would come a blessing to all people. This blessing was and still is salvation through Jesus Christ. The dream was God's initiative toward Jacob just as the life and gospel of Christ is God's initiative to us. We would not know God if He first did not reveal Himself to us first.

John records these words of Jesus:

And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man." (John 1:51, ESV) Here Jesus lets us in on a little secret: He is the stairway. There is a bridge from earth to heaven and Jesus is that stairway. Jesus made it possible for man to be forgiven and go to heaven to dwell with the Lord. He is the one who made the way for us.

### SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

#### BE A DOER OF THE WORD

*Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.*