



WEEK  
**THREE**  
SEPTEMBER 2022

SMALL GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

## MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



## OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Masking tape

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Using masking tape on the floor, tape two parallel lines about six inches apart from each other; each line should be about six feet long.
- Tell kids to line up between the lines.
- Identify one end of the line as the front and the other end as the back.
- Tell kids to stand in the following order, but the challenge is that they must stay between the two lines while moving to be in the correct location:
  - Anyone who has a pet stands toward the back of the line and kids without pets at the front of the line.
  - Stand in the order of your birthday months with January at the front of the line and December at the back of the line.
  - Based on the color of their shirt, stand on the line creating a rainbow with red at the front of the line and violet at the back of the line. If necessary, remind kids the color order of a rainbow (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, violet)
- If you are doing the Verses to Take with You Activity, keep the taped line on the floor to be used for the ladder.

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

### Fall Asleep

Jacob's Dream  
Genesis 28:10-22  
(supporting: Genesis 25:19-34; 27)

## TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

Why are plans important?

## TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can trust that God has a plan.

## MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding."  
Proverbs 3:5, NIV

## MONTHLY VIRTUE

Trust—Putting your confidence in someone you can depend on

## BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Not only did you have to work together to do this activity, but you also needed a plan. **[Transition]** Let's head to Large Group to hear about a very important plan."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



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## MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment

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## TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Large piece of paper, markers

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather kids around a large piece of butcher paper.
- Set out the markers.
- Ask: Imagine you are going camping with a friend for a weekend. What plans do you need to make?
- Tell kids to write their answers of the paper.
  - Examples could include: What will be your shelter? What will you eat? What will you do for fun?
- Review the answers.
- Ask:
  - What if you didn't make any plans for the camping trip? What could happen?
  - We can make plans, but sometimes things don't go according to our plans, do they? Can you think of an example of something that could happen on our camping trip we didn't plan for?
  - Why are plans important?



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### BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Story Cards" Activity Page, tape, butcher paper, markers, Bibles, (optional) mobile device

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Shuffle the "Story Cards."

- Without showing kids the cards, tape a card to each kid's back.
  - If you have fewer than eight kids, tape two cards on some kids' backs so all eight cards are used.
  - If you have more than eight, use two sets of cards.
- Instruct the group to stand in a line so the "Story Cards" are in the correct order. The catch is they cannot talk while figuring out the order.
- Once kids think they have the correct order, read the cards out loud.
- Allow kids to change spots to make corrections to the story line if necessary.
- Correct order:
  1. God's amazing world was broken by sin.
  2. God made a promise to Abraham.
  3. Abraham had a son Isaac.
  4. Esau sold his birthright to Jacob for some of Jacob's stew.
  5. Jacob tricked Isaac into giving Jacob a special blessing instead of giving it to Esau.
  6. Esau was mad and plotted revenge against Jacob, so Jacob ran away.
  7. Jacob had a dream about God and God made a promise to Jacob.
  8. Jesus, who was part of Abraham's and Jacob's family line, was born and gave His life to pay for the sins of the whole world.
- After reviewing the story, gather kids around a large piece of butcher paper. Draw a line from one end to the middle of the paper.
- Write "Jacob" at the end of the line in the middle of the paper. (Consider drawing a stick figure with the head resting on a rock)
- Ask: What was Jacob's vision? What plan did God share with Jacob? (Refer to Genesis 28:12-15) Write kids' responses under Jacob's name.
- Write "Abraham & Isaac" at the end of the line by the end of the paper. (Consider drawing a star around their names)
- Ask: Who was Abraham? What plan did God give to Abraham? How is the plan for Abraham and Jacob similar? (Refer to Genesis 12:1-4)
- Continue the line to the other end of the paper, creating a heart somewhere along the line.
- Write "Jesus" in the heart. Explain that a long, long time after Jacob's vision, Jesus was born and is part of Abraham's family line. How is Jesus part of God's promise to Abraham? (Jesus is part of Abraham's family line, and it is through Jesus' death and resurrection that God blesses all nations. Jesus is the way that everyone can be with God now and forever.)

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### (BIBLE STORY EXTENSION, CONTINUED)

- Encourage kids to write their names on the line (or draw themselves). Remind kids that we are all part of God's plan. God loves the world and God loves each one of them. Jesus was God's plan when God spoke to Abraham; Jesus was God's plan in Jacob's vision. The plan was always for Jesus to be the way we can have a relationship with God now and forever.
- Use the following to lead kids in a wrap-up conversation about today's story:
  - Jacob knew God was with him. Encourage kids to share about times when they knew God was with them. Maybe they moved and God brought great friends into their life, or they were able to encourage and support a friend going through a hard time. **[Make it Personal] (Share an age-appropriate story of a time you knew God was with you. Maybe you were struggling, and a verse popped in your head. Or God guided you to show someone who was struggling that they matter.)**
  - Does knowing God was with Jacob, even though Jacob didn't make great choices, help you to trust God no matter what? Why or why not?

God's amazing world was broken by sin.

God made a promise to Abraham.

Abraham had a son Isaac.

Esau sold his birthright to Jacob for some of Jacob's stew.

Jacob tricked Isaac into giving Jacob a special blessing instead of giving it to Esau.

Esau was mad and plotted revenge against Jacob, so Jacob ran away.

Jacob had a dream about God and God made a promise to Jacob.

Jesus, who was part of Abraham's and Jacob's family line, was born and gave His life to pay for the sins of the whole world.

**What to Do:**

Print and cut along dashed lines. Provide one set for each small group.

**"Story Cards" Activity Page**

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## MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**Ask:**

- Would Jacob be someone you would trust all the time?

Why or why not?

- And yet Jacob is part of God's plan. How does that encourage you to trust God, knowing that even when we mess up, God still has a plan to love us and to make things right in the end?
- Abraham and Jacob were part of God's plan—part of the story. What is our part of God's story? How are we part of God's plan?
- What if you ask God to help resolve a situation a certain way, but things don't work out the way you asked. Why can you still trust God in that moment?

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## MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space  
for personal processing  
and application



## MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Colored pencils, the butcher paper  
from the Bible Story Extension Activity

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather kids around the butcher paper from the Bible Story Extension Activity.
- Remind kids that God created the world and everything in it and made a plan, a plan so we can be with God now and forever. We are part of God's story.
- Encourage kids to draw a heart or a star and write a thank You note to God inside the heart.
- Kids can draw more than one heart.
- Challenge them to fill the paper with thanks to God.
- If necessary, give them a prompt such as:
  - Think of people you are thankful God put into your life
  - Think about the gifts God gave you to use to show God's love to others
  - Think of the times God provided comfort or encouragement for you
  - Think about what Jesus means to you and thank God for Him
  - Think of a specific story in the Bible you are thankful for
- Close in prayer.

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### WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, we know You will do what You say! You kept Your promise to Abraham. You kept Your promise to Jacob. You will make everything right in the end. Thank You (fill in with some of the things kids wrote on the butcher paper). Amen!"