



## WEEK FOUR – AUGUST 2025 – SECOND/THIRD

**Bible Story:** *Jacob's Dream* | *Genesis 28:10-22 (suppt. Genesis 25:19-34; 27)*

**Bottom Line:** *You can trust that God is with you.*

**Memory Verse:** *“Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see.”- Hebrews 11:1 (NIrV)*

**Insight:** *Faith in God's Son – I believe in Jesus and will continue to trust Him even when life doesn't make sense*

**Application:** *Faith – Trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see*

**Series Overview:** Every story has a beginning. As we explore Creation, the Fall and other pivotal moments in the origin of our faith, kids will discover that not only did God create everything, but even after people chose to go their own way, God had a plan to restore us. We can see how God faithfully began to fulfill that plan in Abram's call and in the lives of Jacob and Joseph—and we look forward to the fulfillment of that plan in Jesus. When kids see how God has worked in the past, they can grow in faith that our faithful God continues to work in and through each person who chooses to follow Jesus.

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**8:45 - 9:00 | 10:45 – 11:00 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY**

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**Connection Centers**

*Connect: a time that invites kids to share with others and leaders*

**What You Need:** Activity Bins + Coloring Sheets (find on your shelves in space)

**What You Do:**

- *PRE-CONNECTION TIME*
  - **Before kids arrive, pray for your group before they arrive. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Recall a time in your life when you experienced uncertainty, but you knew that God was with you. Ask God to give each child courage when they face uncertainty. Pray they will trust God even when they don't know what's next. Ask God to help the kids see that God is always working in their lives!**
- *DURING CONNECTION TIME*
  - Greet each child by name and with a high five or fist bump!
    - **Make sure to grab second sticker from the child + place it on your sticker sheet**
  - Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
  - Pull out your activity bins + set aside some coloring sheets for kids to partake in your small group space
  - Ask questions in order to connect with + get to know your few as you partake in activities alongside them...you can use these :
    - ***“What's one thing you're excited to learn or do now that summer is almost over and school is starting soon?”***
    - ***“If you could have any superpower for just one day, what would it be and why?”***
    - ***“What's the best thing you did this summer? (Could be big or small!)”***

- *“What’s something super cool or interesting you know how to do? (Like tie your shoes, draw a great picture, or tell a funny joke!)”*
- *“If you could invent a new ice cream flavor, what would it be called and what would be in it?”*
- *AFTER CONNECTION TIME*
  - *Use this time to review over how to be successful in small group time as well as Flatirons Kids by using the SG Structure 101 sheet featured on your activity shelf*
    - Go over each rule to create a great small group experience
  - Transition into the Opening Small Group Activity

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**9:00 - 9:15 | 11:00 – 11:15 | OPENING SMALL GROUP**

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## **OPENING ACTIVITY**

**What You Need:** “Flying Contest” Activity Page; “Paper Airplane” Activity Page; Coloring Supplies

### **What You Do:**

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high-five, fist bump, or a wave.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Give each kid a “Flying Contest” Activity Page.
- Set out the coloring supplies.
- Instruct the kids to color and decorate their superheroes.
- Use the “Paper Airplane” Activity Page to show and demonstrate how to fold their “Flying Contest” Activity Page.
- Give kids time to fly their paper airplanes.

### **Inclusive Pro-Tips:**

- Some kids might struggle to fold their paper airplanes. Assist the kids as needed, or have a few pre-folded paper airplanes so they can focus on decorating and flying them.
- If any kids are overwhelmed by the excitement, let them fly their airplanes separately in a calmer space.

**What You Say:**

“Great job with your paper airplanes, everyone! It was fun to see how far they could go! It’s amazing what can happen when we trust God. Just like these superhero planes soared through the air, we can do incredible things when we remember that God is always with us. *[Transition]* **Today, in our true story from the Bible, we’ll discover a guy, a twin brother, who made lots of bad choices, but God was always with him! Let’s go find out more!**”

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**9:15 - 9:50 | 11:20 – 11:50 | LARGE GROUP**

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Abram, later Abraham, had a son named Isaac, who had twin boys named Jacob and Esau. Though Jacob was younger, he tricked his brother out of both a birthright and a blessing. Afraid that Esau would kill him, Jacob ran away from home. In the wilderness, God appeared to Jacob in a dream of angels ascending and descending a stairway to heaven. And even though Jacob was a deeply flawed man on the run, God renewed the promise that he had given to Abraham.

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**9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 | SMALL GROUP**

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**SUPER BOOST**

**[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]**

**What You Need:** “Super Boost” Activity Page

**What You Do:**

- Divide the kids into two teams.
- Direct each team to sit together.
- Explain the game:
  - You will read a question out loud about the Bible Story.
  - The teams will take turns answering the questions you ask.
  - If a team answers correctly, they will get a “super boost.”
    - *The whole team gets a round of high fives!*
  - If a team answers the question incorrectly, the other team gets a chance to “save the day” by answering it correctly.
- One at a time, ask a question about the Bible Story to one of the teams from the “Super Boost” Activity Page.
- Continue asking questions until all of the questions have been asked and answered.
- After all the questions have been asked and answered, ask:
  - What was your favorite part of the story?
  - How did Jacob show God was with him, even when he made bad choices?

**Inclusive Pro-Tips:**

- Some kids might need extra time to process the questions. Be patient and give them a moment to process before moving on.
- Some kids might be sensitive to touch. If they don’t want a high five, give them a verbal cheer or a thumbs-up!
- Consider adding movement to this game by inviting a kid on each team to run to you when they are ready to answer the question.

**What You Say:**

“Jacob made a lot of mistakes and bad choices in his life. But God continued to be faithful to Jacob—and God continued working on His great rescue plan! In Jacob’s dream, God spoke the promises to Jacob that He had made to Abraham and Isaac.

But God also made another important promise to Jacob in his dream. God said this: ‘I am with you.’

“You see, Jacob had heard about God, but he didn’t have the privilege of reading the Bible and learning all of these truths about who God is like we do. But God wanted Jacob to know that He was always with him, so God told him.

“And God has made the same promise to us: He is always with us.

“God is even with us in an even more incredible way! After Jesus’ resurrection, when He went to heaven, He sent His Holy Spirit to live inside of His followers. When you become a follower of Jesus, the Holy Spirit came to live inside of you too! So the promise God made to Jacob is true of all Jesus-followers too! ‘I am with you.’

“So no matter what happens, *[Bottom Line]* you can trust that God is with you too!”

*[Make It Personal] (Share how you are learning to trust that God is always with you. Share some of the prayers you are praying to ask God to help you learn to trust that He is with you. Share how you aren’t a perfect follower of Jesus, but how you have seen God work for good even when you haven’t been perfect.)*

## **JACOB’S LADDER PAPER CHAIN**

**[Live for God | Application Activity]**

**What You Need:** “Jacob’s Ladder” Activity Page; Prepared Ladder Examples; Markers; Construction Paper Strips; Tape or glue

### **What You Do:**

- Instruct each kid to select two different colored strips of paper.
- Set out the markers.
- Explain the activity:

- On one strip of paper, kids are to use the markers to write areas where we might make bad choices. (*For example: being impatient, not sharing, always thinking about ourselves first, etc.*)
- On the other strip of paper, kids are to write God’s promises. (*For example: God will always love us, God is always with us, God made a way for us to be forgiven through Jesus, God gave us the Holy Spirit, etc.*)
- Display one of the prepared ladder examples to the kids.
- Use the “Jacob’s Ladder” Activity Page to show the kids how to put the strips together, alternating between our bad choices and God’s promises, to show how God was always faithfully building despite our bad choices.
- Ask: “How does this ladder remind you of Jacob’s dream?”

**Inclusive Pro-Tips:**

- If writing is challenging for the kids, let them draw symbols to represent their ideas.
- If a kid isn’t comfortable sharing out loud, let them point to or hold up a strip they feel connected to.
- Allow extra processing time for any kids who need it! Be patient and let them work at their own pace.

**What You Say:**

“Wow! You all did a great job making your Jacob’s Ladder paper chains! This paper chain reminds us of Jacob’s dream when he saw the stairway with angels going up and down and God standing beside it.

God made a connection between heaven and earth—Jesus came down to Earth to restore people’s relationship with God. God was working and working on that plan for a long, long time.

“We also made those ladders personal. On one piece of paper, you wrote down some of your bad choices. On the other are some of the promises God made to us as His friends. These promises are truths about God! God will always love us! He is always with us! He always forgives us!

“Take these home and remember: even though we all make bad choices, God’s promises are always true. Because we are Jesus’ friends, God will always love us, God will always forgive us, and God will always help us. You can always trust that God is with you, even when things are hard or we mess up.

“God is building a beautiful friendship with you, always, despite whether or not you make good choices, because He is good.

“Should we aim to be more like Jesus every day? Yes! Will we be perfect? No! The Holy Spirit will help us daily when we choose to follow Jesus. But hold onto these truths: No matter what, you can trust that God loves you, you can trust that God is always on your side, and **[Bottom Line] you can trust that God is with you!**”

## **PRAYER TIME**

### **[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]**

**What You Need:** N/A

#### **What You Do:**

- Talk about how trusting God is like building a tower. Each time we trust God, we add a block to our tower.
- Encourage each kid to think about one way they can trust God. Ask them to say it aloud as they add a block to their tower.
  - *For example: trusting God for their family, when they’re scared, with friendships, at school, with hobbies, when they’re trying something new, when unsure what’s coming next, etc.*
    - *NOTE: Let the kids repeat answers, what’s important is that it’s meaningful to them.*
- Take turns praying aloud. Encourage kids to share one thing they’re trusting God with.
- Close in prayer.

**Inclusive Pro-Tips:**

- If some kids prefer not to speak their prayer out loud, let them know they can pray silently!

**What You Say:**

*“Dear God, thank You for loving us so much! You promised that You are with us, please teach us how to trust that You are with us every second of our lives. Lord, we want to trust You with everything, all of these things we said as we built these towers, and we want to connect with You as You are with us every second as we go throughout our lives. Teach us how to connect with You over everything we face in our lives. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”*

***As adults arrive to pick up, ask the kids to share their Jacob’s Ladder paper chains and what they represent!***