



WEEK FOUR – AUGUST 2025 – KINDER/FIRST

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.

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

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

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

OPENING ACTIVITY

What You Need: N/A

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.
- Gather the kids to sit in a circle.
- Explain that you’re going to create a silly dream story together!
- Start a story using one of the statements below.
 - Last night, I had a dream that three purple giraffes showed up in my backyard. When I asked them to leave because my backyard wasn’t big enough for three giraffes, they. . .
 - Last night, I had a dream that I had to give a speech about racecars in an auditorium full of people. When I started to speak, I couldn’t remember what a racecar was so I . . .
 - Last night, I had a dream I could fly like an eagle. But only when it rains. The first time I decided to fly to . . .

- The kid to your left will add the next sentence. Then, the next kid continues the story.
- Keep going around the circle until the story gets too long or kids start running out of ideas. Then, start a new dream story!
- When the story gets too long or the kids run out of ideas, start another story or dream.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Consider the needs of your group. Some kids might need extra time to process and come up with their sentences.
- Modify the activity if kids struggle with the sentences. Let kids add just one word at a time instead of full sentences.

What You Say:

“Whoa! We came up with some pretty crazy dream stories! *[Transition]* Today in our true story from the Bible, we’ll hear about a man who had a pretty epic dream and how God was always with him—even when he made mistakes. Let’s go hear more!”

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

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.

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

THE STORY OF JACOB

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

What You Need: “Jacob’s Story Images” Activity Page

What You Do:

- Divide kids into five groups.
- Give each group one card from the “Jacob’s Story Images” Activity Page.
- Encourage kids to discuss their pictures and recall what they learned in Large Group.
 - If the kids are stumped, walk around and give them a few hints.
- Bring all the groups together and arrange them in the correct story order based on the numbers on the pages.
- Add details as needed using these prompts.
 - #1: Jacob was sneaky! First, he convinced his older brother Esau to give up his birthright (the right to a certain position and wealth because of being the oldest) for a bowl of stew. Later, he tricked his father Isaac into giving him the family blessing instead of his brother by pretending to be Esau! Jacob was dishonest in both situations.
 - #2: Because of his dishonesty, Jacob was forced to flee from his home and take a very long journey—hundreds of miles—leaving behind everything he’d ever known.
 - #3: Jacob slept, using a rock as a pillow. He dreamt of a stairway, reaching all the way to heaven with angels traveling up and down. God was beside the staircase. God made a promise to give Jacob and his family the land he was resting on, the same promise he made to his grandfather Abraham. God also made another awesome promise to Jacob—God promised to be with him.
 - #4: Jacob lived in Harran for many years. While he was away from home, he married and had thirteen children.
 - #5: Eventually, Jacob returned home, just as God had promised.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Consider your group's needs. Some kids might prefer to listen rather than speak for the group. Adapt and adjust as needed.
- If sitting still is tough for your group, let the kids stand or move around while reviewing the Bible Story pictures.

What You Say:

“Wow! Jacob’s story was full of ups and downs. He made some sneaky choices to take away the birthright and blessing from his brother. Yikes. But even though Jacob messed up, God still kept His promises! God promised to be with Jacob always, and to make his family grow into a great nation.

“And guess what? God kept His promises to Jacob, but He also was working on His great rescue plan. God did grow Jacob’s family—Jacob had thirteen children! And many, many, many generations later, from that same family, would come Jesus. And Jesus would rescue us all.

“God also kept His promise to always be with Jacob too! And God makes us that same promise—He promises that He is always with us. And it’s true! He always is!

“But God is not just with us, He’s in us! After Jesus returned to heaven, God sent the Holy Spirit to live inside each of His followers. If you are a follower of Jesus, you are never alone! God’s very Spirit lives inside of you! God is closer than close! So just like Jacob, **[Bottom Line] you can trust that God is with you.**”

STEPPING STONES

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

What You Need: Bible marked at Hebrews 11:1; “Hebrews 11:1 Stones” Activity Page; floor tape

What You Do:

- Select a kid to open the Bible marked at Hebrews 11:1.
- Read the verse out loud to the group.

- Lead the group to repeat the verse together several times.
- Discuss any unfamiliar words with the group.
- Share with the kids that faith is trusting in God when you can't see because of what you CAN see!
- Place the “Hebrews 11:1 Stones” Activity Page cards on the floor in verse order.
 - Allow kids to help put the cards in verse order by looking at the numbers on the cards.
 - Place the cards close enough together so that kids can hop from one “stone” to the other.
 - *Optional: Use floor tape to secure the “Hebrews 11:1 Stones” Activity Page in place.*
- If possible, invite the kids to take off their shoes.
- Lead the kids to repeat the Memory Verse as they hop along the stones, one kid at a time.
- Assist the kids as needed by reciting the verse with them as they hop.
- Gather the kids to discuss.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Consider the needs of your group. Some kids might need extra time to process the words of the verse. Assist as needed.
- Consider alternative movements for kids who are unable to hop on the stones. Invite kids to point to each stone and recite the memory verse from their spot.

What You Say:

“Amazing hopping, friends! When Jacob used a rock for a pillow, he had a crazy dream with a staircase that went all the way to heaven! In the middle of a tough situation when he was on the run, God reminded Jacob that He was with him, even when he'd made so many bad decisions.

“In some ways, we aren't much different than Jacob. In fact, we all make bad decisions. But I'm so glad that God sent Jesus to pay for sin and defeat it once and for all so we could be close to God again. See, that awful curse of sin would

separate us from God without Jesus. BUT God loves us so much, and wanted us to be close to Him, so Jesus gave His life to pay for sin.

“And guess what? God wants to be even closer to us! When Jesus returned to heaven, God sent us the Holy Spirit to live inside of His followers! When you decide to follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of you! He is closer than close, friends. Not only that, but the Holy Spirit leads and guides us to be more like Jesus every day!

“Should we try to do better? Of course! But God’s love for us doesn’t change because of something we’ve done wrong. When you make a wise or a not so wise choice, when you follow God well and when you don’t, God’s love for you stays the same! We can hope and trust in a God we cannot see because we can see all the wonderful things He has done. No matter what happens, ***[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:

- Ask the kids if they’d like you to pray for anything specific.
- Lead the kids in saying together: ***[Bottom Line]*** You can trust that God is with you.
- Close in prayer.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- When you’re praying with the kids, speak slowly and clearly, and give the kids time to say “Amen” with you at the end.

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for Your constant love for all of us! Just like You were with Jacob, You are with us. You don’t hold our bad choices against us, and we are so grateful for that. Instead, You offer forgiveness when we turn to You through Your Son, Jesus. Thank You for being a good, good God who we can trust, always. Teach us to listen to Your Holy Spirit and follow You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to talk about how just like God was with Jacob that [Bottom Line] you can trust that God is with you.