



# Life of Jacob: The Dream

**Lesson Aim: To trust God to keep His promise  
 to be with us wherever we go.**

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God Is:** The God Who Keeps His Promises

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** Genesis 28:12-17

**What He Has Done:** God told Jacob in a dream He would keep His promise.

## THE WAY

**Whisper Verse:** "The Lord is in this place."

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"I am with you and I will watch over you wherever you go." Genesis 28:15

Unit 7: The God Who Keeps His Promises			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
32	Abram and Lot, Genesis 13:1-2, 5-11, 14-18	God gave Abram the land and blessed it.	To see how to live in peace with one another.
33	Hagar and Ishmael, Genesis 21:12-20	God kept His promise when He rescued Hagar and Ishmael in the desert.	To know God watches over us.
34	Abraham's Visitors, Genesis 15:5-6; 18:1-14	God sent three men to say His promise would come true.	To know God can do anything He promises.
35	The Search for Rebekah, Genesis 24:34-46, 61-67	God helped Abraham's servant find Rebekah.	To show how to obey and pray throughout every task we are given.
36	Jacob and Esau, Genesis 27:30-35; 32:5; 33:4-11	God kept His promised plan for each brother.	To know we can forgive each other.
37	Life of Jacob: The Dream, Genesis 28:12-17	God told Jacob in a dream He would keep His promise.	To trust God to keep His promise to be with us wherever we go.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Galatians 3:26-29. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, God, for the way You always watch over us and always keep Your promises. Help the children understand the depth of Your faithfulness. Amen."

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**THE WORSHIP  
THE WORD &  
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a cloud or attach a cotton ball to a sticker or label
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "The Lord is in this place."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs are available at ResourceWell.org.	<b>Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "I Am with You" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled" "Give Thanks to the Lord" "He Is Mighty to Save" "How Wide?" "I Will Always Obey Your Law" "Love One Another" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "The Lord Is Faithful" <b>Additional Song Suggestions:</b> "Father Abraham" "Trust and Obey"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 7, Lesson 37
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Watch the Word:</b> Genesis 28:12-17	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Genesis 28:15a Visual: Pillow or a large stone
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> Jacob's Ladder	Standard-size light blue sturdy paper, 4 cotton balls, glitter paint
		<b>Game:</b> Climbing Jacob's Ladder	Step stool, chair
		<b>Game:</b> The Lord Is With Me	Soft ball
		<b>Snack:</b> The Lord Is in This Place	Pretzel ladders (Children use small marshmallows or dip to connect pretzel sticks into a ladder shape.)
	<b>Circle of Prayer</b>	None	
Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 7, Lesson 37 Color This Story: "Jacob's Dream"	
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Say &amp; Do:</b> Genesis 28:12-17	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Abraham's Family Story	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Stand Up and Say It!	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Wherever You Go	Chairs (optional)
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about God's promises or God's family

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



## The Lord is in this place

# THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello \_\_\_\_\_. I am glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a cloud or a cotton ball attached to a sticker or label. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a cloud remind you heaven is above the clouds. The Lord is there in heaven and He is in this place, too. Today's Whisper Verse is "The Lord is in this place."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.\***

### **SIGN LANGUAGE: "The Lord is in this place."**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com).)

**Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with three hand motions:**

<b>"The Lord"</b>	Use right thumb and index finger to make hand shape "L". Take "L" hand shape from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.
<b>"is in"</b>	One hand moves into the other to show the concept of in.
<b>"this place." (location)</b>	Index finger point at something; then both hands make "L" hand shape and move to outline a circular-shaped area.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

**\*Today's Whisper Verse:** "The Lord is in this place," Genesis 28:16a. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



The God who keeps His promises

## THE WORSHIP

**Teacher Tip:** To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play “Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God” as children move to that designated area.



**It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the God who keeps His promises. He made a special promise to Jacob and to all of us—He promised to always be with us and watch over us wherever we go. As we give our offering, let's thank God for keeping that important promise.** Sing: “I Am with You” while the offering is collected.

**Let's celebrate by singing about our mighty God who is always with us!** Sing: “He Is Mighty to Save.”

**God spoke those words to Jacob in a dream. In the dream, Jacob saw a ladder reaching from earth all the way up to heaven and he saw angels going up and down the ladder. At the top of the ladder, He saw God. Imagine that! When Jacob woke up, he said, “Surely, the Lord is in this place.” That reminds me of today's Whisper Verse, “The Lord is in this place.” Let's say it together.** Review the Whisper Verse together: “The Lord is in this place.” Include sign language.



**Let's see if Delbert and Lello know about Jacob's dream.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 7, Lesson 37.



**Jacob's dream showed him the Lord was in that place with him. The Lord is here in this place with us, too. Still today, He watches over us. He will always keep His promises to us.** Sing: “The Lord Is Faithful” and “Give Thanks to the Lord.”



God promised to be with us

## THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our **Classroom Promise with the motions.**

**With my eyes on my teacher;**

Point to eyes.

**My mouth quiet as can be,**

Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.

**I will listen to hear,**

Cup hand around ear.

**How God loves you and me.**

Hug self, point to others, and then self.

**Last time, we learned how Esau forgave his brother, Jacob. Today, we will hear how God spoke to Jacob through a dream. Let's open our Bible to the first book of the Bible, Genesis.**

Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Genesis 28:15-16.

### **WATCH THE WORD: GENESIS 28:12-17**

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a pillow or a large stone. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- **Jacob was traveling as the sun began to set.**
- **With a stone as his pillow, he lay down his head.**
- **The Lord was with Jacob who fell fast asleep**
- **And a ladder to heaven appeared in his dream.**
  
- **Angels moved up and down on each ladder stair.**
- **And at the top, he saw God standing there.**
- **"I am the God of your father," He said.**
- **"Through you and your children all the world will be blessed."**
  
- **"I am with you, watching over you wherever you go."**
- **God said, "I will keep My promise." Then Jacob awoke.**
- **He thought, "Surely this is heaven's gate.**
- **And surely the Lord is in this place!"**

**What did Jacob say after he woke from his dream about the ladder?** (The Lord is in this place.)

**Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's whisper today's Whisper Verse to each other:**

**"The Lord is in this place."** Include sign language or hand motions.



**What promise did God make to Jacob in his dream?** (God promised to watch over him.)

**Let's find our answer in the Bible.** Read Genesis 28:15a from the teacher's Bible.



## God is with us **THE WAY**

**Teacher Tip:** Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

### **CRAFT: JACOB'S LADDER**

**Purpose:** To illustrate Jacob's dream.

**Supplies:** Standard-size light blue sturdy paper, 4 cotton balls, glitter paint

**Prepare:** Print 4 ladder steps from bottom to top across the paper. Print one angel figure on each step of the ladder. Under the ladder, print: **"The Lord is in this place." Genesis 28:16**

#### **Directions:**

1. Glue the 4 cotton balls across the top of the light blue paper.
2. Decorate each angel figure with glitter paint.
3. Allow to dry.

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **Have you ever dreamed about heaven?** (Children respond.)
- **What do you think the angels looked like in Jacob's dream?** (Children respond.)
- **Our Bible Memory Verse comes from the promise God made to Jacob in his dream. Who can say that promise?** ("I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go," Genesis 28:15a.)
- **Who remembers what Jacob thought after he woke up?** (He thought, "Surely the Lord is in this place.")

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: CLIMBING JACOB'S LADDER**

**Purpose:** To remember God's promise in Jacob's dream.

**Supplies:** Step stool, chair

**Jacob saw the Lord in his dream and the Lord told him, "I am with you and I will watch over you wherever you go." Let's act out Jacob's dream.**

### **Directions:**

1. Choose a child as Jacob to lie on the floor pretending to sleep with cheek resting on a fist as a rock. **With a stone as a pillow, Jacob laid down to rest.**
2. Choose another child to be the Lord. Assist the child while he or she stands on a chair (the top of Jacob's ladder). **The Lord was with Jacob.**
3. **While Jacob is sleeping, the rest of you will be the angels who move up and down the ladder.** The remaining children take turns stepping up and down off the step stool.
4. Have "the Lord" announce God's promise: **"I am with you and I will watch over you wherever you go."**
5. If time allows, change roles and repeat until everyone has had a turn as Jacob, the Lord, and an angel.

## **GAME: THE LORD IS WITH ME**

**Purpose:** To expand their understanding of God's omnipresence.

**Supplies:** Soft ball

**Just as the Lord was with Jacob wherever he went, the Lord is with you, too. He will watch over you wherever you go. Let's think of the places you go where the Lord is with you.**

### **Directions:**

1. Children sit in a circle.
2. Roll the ball to a child. Instruct the child to say,  
**"The Lord is with me in \_\_\_\_\_."**  
(My bedroom, dreams, backyard, classroom, car, swing, bicycle, etc.)
3. Everyone responds by saying the Whisper Verse with the sign language or hand motions:  
**"The Lord is in this place."**
4. Repeat steps 2-3 until each child has a turn.

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: THE LORD IS IN THIS PLACE**

**Purpose:** To remember we can trust God to keep His promise to be with us wherever we go.

**Snack Suggestion:** Pretzel ladders (Children use small marshmallows or dip to connect pretzel sticks into a ladder shape.)

**Use the dip to connect your pretzel sticks and create the shape of a ladder on your plate. In his dream, Jacob saw God at the top of the ladder and he knew the Lord was watching over him.**

### **Directions:**

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.  
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.**  
**Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **Who remembers the Whisper Verse?** ("The Lord is in this place.") **Let's say it together with the hand motions.**
  - **Do you think the Lord is here in this room with us as we eat our snack?** (Yes.)
  - **Just as we hear and see each other now, God hears and sees us, too. Do you think He saw and heard us thank Him for our blessings?** (Yes.)
  - **The Lord is with us everywhere. Where is your favorite place to be with the Lord?** (Children respond.)
  - **Who remembers what the Lord said to Jacob from the top of the ladder?** (He promised to bless the whole world through Jacob and Jacob's children.)



## **CIRCLE OF PRAYER**

**God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.**

**Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ (read every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

**COMPLETED CRAFT:** Take home your "Jacob's Ladder" craft. Tell everyone about Jacob's dream!

**PONDER, PRAY & PLAY:** Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how God is with us and will watch over us wherever we go.**

**COLOR THIS STORY:** "Jacob's Dream." Discuss the Bible Story and play the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song, "I Am with You," as children color.





If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## **GOT TIME?**

### **SAY & DO: GENESIS 28:12-17**

**Purpose:** This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

**Supplies:** None

**Directions:** With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions, then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Jacob was traveling as the sun began to set.** (Walk in place.)
- **With a stone as his pillow, he lay down his head.** (Rest cheek on fist.)
- **The Lord was with Jacob who fell fast sleep** (Close eyes.)
- **And a ladder to heaven appeared in his dream.** (Open eyes; point to heaven.)
  
- **Angels moved up and down on each ladder stair.** (Pretend to climb a ladder.)
- **And at the top, he saw God standing there.** (Point to heaven.)
- **"I am the God of your father," He said.** (Point to self.)
- **"Through you and your children all the world will be blessed."** (Stretch arms wide.)
  
- **"I am with you, watching over you wherever you go."**(Point to other children.)
- **He said, "I will keep My promise." Then Jacob awoke.** (Nod head in agreement.)
- **He thought, "Surely this is heaven's gate.** (Point to heaven.)
- **And surely the Lord is in this place!"** (Point to ground.)

### **GAME: ABRAHAM'S FAMILY STORY**

**Purpose:** To review Unit 7 stories about the God who keeps His promises.

**Supplies:** None

**God kept His promise to give Abraham a big family and to bless the world through them. Let's act out a symbol for each story we have heard about Abraham and his family.**

**Directions:** Teacher leads children to act out main point of story.

1. **Instead of arguing, Abraham divided up the land with Lot. Let's pretend to be Abraham walking through his new land.** Children walk in place.
2. **Hagar and Ishmael were thirsty in the desert. God heard their cries and gave them water.** Children pretend to drink water from an imaginary cup.
3. **God kept His promise to Abraham and Sarah; He gave them baby Isaac.** Children pretend to hold a baby.
4. **Abraham's faithful servant obeyed and prayed in his search for Rebekah.** Children fold hands in prayer and then shade their eyes with their hands, as if searching for someone.
5. **Isaac and Rebekah had twins. Jacob cheated Esau, but years later, Esau hugged him and forgave him.** Children hug each other as Jacob and Esau once hugged.
6. **Jacob fell asleep and dreamed of angels climbing up and down the ladder to heaven.** Children lay cheek on folded hands and smile, pretending to have a wonderful dream.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"I am with you and I will watch over you wherever you go." Genesis 28:15

### **GAME: STAND UP AND SAY IT!**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** None

**In the Bible, God made a promise to watch over us. We can remember that promise by saying it to one another.** Practice saying the Bible Memory Verse together a few times.

#### **Directions:**

1. Say, "**If you are a girl, I want you to stand and say God's promise together.**"
2. The girls stand and say, "**I am with you and I will watch over you wherever you go.**"
3. Repeat steps 1-2 with various groups such as:
  - If you are a boy,
  - If you love God,
  - If you are wearing something blue,
  - If you have a brother or sister,
4. Play as often as you like, announcing different groups each time.

### **GAME: WHEREVER YOU GO**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Chairs (optional)

**Prepare:** In this game, the children will pretend to travel to various locations. You may choose to set up two rows of chairs next to each other as a pretend car or the children can sit in rows on the floor.

**In the Bible, God made a promise to watch over us wherever we go. What are some of the places we go?** (e.g., Grandma's house, store, playground, doctor's office.)

#### **Directions:**

1. Children sit in the chairs or sit in rows on the floor.
2. **Let's pretend we're riding in a car.** Ask one of the children, "**Where should we go?**"
3. Have fun pretending to drive the car to that location. Pretend to stop for traffic or to take a wrong return. When you arrive, say, "**We're here!**"
4. You may choose to have the children get out of the car and act out an activity they might do at that location, such as hugging grandma, buying milk, or running in place for the playground.
5. Ask, "**Is God with us when we are at name of location?**"
6. Lead the children in saying, "**God says, 'Yes! I will watch over you wherever you go.'**"
7. If the children got out of the car, have them take their seats again. Play as often as you like or as long as children are interested. You may choose to change the vehicle into a bus, train, or airplane depending on the location to which you are traveling.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about God's promises or God's family.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 7, Lesson 37: Life of Jacob: The Dream

**PONDER!** Read Genesis 28:12-17 with your family. Discuss the promise God made to Jacob in his dream– to watch over him wherever he went. How has God's promise in Jacob's dream come true for your family members?

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Thank You, Lord, for watching over us wherever we go. Help us remember You are always with us, even as we sleep and dream. Amen."

**PLAY!** At the top of a piece of drawing paper write: "The Lord is in this place." On the same paper, draw a picture of your favorite place. Give your drawing to someone to help them remember God is with them wherever they go.

**Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse:** Genesis 28:15

"I am with you and I will watch over you wherever you go."