

At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9 God of Wonders Part 2: Genesis - Joshua Unit 7, Lesson 37

Life of Jacob: The Blessing

Lesson Aim: To inspire spiritual growth in pursuing God's blessings and in mending relationships.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What is the best dream you have ever had?

GAME: Family Olympics

THE WORSHIP THE GOD WHO KEEPS HIS PROMISES

Read Worship Scripture: Psalm 135:3-4.

Sing songs and worship God.

Bless and collect the offering.

Perform High Seas Adventures script or read storybook.

THE WORD JACOB SEEKS GOD'S BLESSING

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God had a plan for Jacob and Esau.

Point to Jacob and Esau (Circa 1900 B.C.). Jacob ran away to Haran to work for his Uncle Laban. He married Leah and Rachel and had many children. Twenty years later, he went back to live in the land God had given his family. He sent a message to Esau that he was sorry. The messenger returned saying Esau was coming with 400 men! Jacob was afraid Esau was still angry, so he sent gifts and sent his family to cross the Jabbok River while he stayed behind. Point to Haran. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Genesis 32:24-30; 33:4, 8-10; 35:1, 10-12. Find It First. Highlight Key Verse: Genesis 32:28. Pray. Read Genesis 32:24-30. The next day, Jacob saw Esau coming. Read Genesis 33:4, 8-10; 35:1. After Jacob returned from building the altar, God appeared and blessed him. Read Genesis 35:10-12.

THE WAY SEEKING GOD'S BLESSINGS

God sent someone to wrestle with Jacob in the middle of the night. Do you think this mysterious person was a man, an angel, or was it God Himself? The Bible doesn't tell us who it was. We know it was not a dream because afterward he had a sore leg from wrestling.

What new name did the mysterious person give Jacob? (Israel.) Why? (He struggled with God and men and had overcome.) What struggle was he overcoming with a person? (His relationship with Esau.) Are you struggling in a friendship? Ask God to help you.

Who did Jacob say he was face-to-face with when he wrestled? (God.) What would it be like to see God face-to-face? Jacob would not let go until God blessed him. Jacob knew God's blessing would come. Why do you think Jacob would not give up until he got the blessing? Have you been waiting for God to bless you in some way?

When Jacob met Esau, what did Esau do? (Ran to hug and kiss Jacob.) What did Jacob say about Esau's face? (It was like seeing the face of God.) How does Esau's choice to forgive remind you of God? How had Esau's heart changed? (He no longer wanted to hurt Jacob. He did not want Jacob's riches.) How had Jacob changed? (He wanted to mend his relationship and to please God.) In his blessing, what was promised to Jacob? (A community of nations and kings would come from him. He would have the land promised to Abraham and Isaac.) Who can point to the nation named for Jacob's new name? Child points to Israel.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Do you know what famous kings were related to Jacob? (King David, King Solomon.) Over 1900 years after God gave Jacob His blessing, an angel told young Mary the world's most famous and powerful king would come from the family of Jacob. Reveal Luke 1:32-33. Find It First. Highlight. Read. God's blessing meant more than Jacob could have ever imagined. Jacob would be related to Jesus, the King above all kings and the Savior of Israel and the entire world!

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Small stone
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: Esau running to meet Jacob
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Promise Pudding **GAME:** Jacob's Family Find **CRAFT:** Promise Balloons **DISCUSSION:** Jacob's Tithe

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Scrambled Promise,

Understanding the Promise **BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW**