

GOD AND US

GENESIS 28:1-22

God Story:

Jacob and the Stairway to Heaven | Genesis 28:1-22

Big Idea:

God is with us wherever we go.

Key Verse:

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding. In all your ways remember him. Then he will make your paths smooth and straight."
Proverbs 3:5-6

Leader Tip:

Pray for the kids in your group before they arrive.

Ms My Story

- 1. Conversation Starter** **2 minutes**
Use the discussion questions to set the tone for your group's time together and lead into today's lesson.
- 2. Intro Activity** **5 minutes**
Introduce this week's Big Idea as the kids solve a mystery together.

Gs God Story

Ls Life Story

- 3. Weekly Video** **12 minutes**
The video includes God Story, Life Story, and host segments along with a key verse game.

Ms My Story

- 4. Small Group Activity** **12 minutes ***
Review today's video teaching and help the kids process it in this fun true-or-false game.
- 5. Key Verse Activity** **8 minutes**
Decorate a key verse activity page that kids can take home.

Os Our Story

- 6. Dismissal**
Connect with parents. Remember to give them take home cards!

* Extendable activity

Ms My Story

1. CONVERSATION STARTER

Supplies:

- None

Leader Tips:

- Use the Conversation Starter to set the tone for your group's time together.
- Be prepared to share your own age-appropriate answers to the questions.

Instructions:

- As the kids arrive, gather them together into a group.
- DISCUSS:
 - What's something that you take with you wherever you go? Why do you take it?
 - Have you ever been camping? What do you take with you? Have you ever forgotten something important, such as a pillow?
 - Describe a fun dream that you've had. Has anything in a dream ever come true?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the kids share their answers with the person sitting closest to them or with the whole group.

2. INTRO ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- Pictures of different places (e.g., playground, school, home, movie theatre, grocery store, etc.)
- Wall-safe tape

Before the Activity:

- Hang the pictures around your class space before the kids arrive.

Instructions:

- Tell the kids that they have a mystery to solve. Point to the pictures and explain that the kids need to figure out the 1 thing that's the same about all of the places. You'll help by giving clues.
- Direct the kids to walk to each picture together and describe the places.
- Give the kids time to guess answers and then provide them with a clue: The thing that's the same isn't actually in the picture, it's something about each place.
- Provide another clue: The thing that's the same is someone who is always with the people in each place.
- SAY: God is in each of these places. **God is with us wherever we go!**



3. WEEKLY VIDEO

Supplies:

- Video file

Leader Tip:

- Sit with the kids and encourage them to focus on the video as necessary.

Instructions:

- Play the video. It contains:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Jacob and the Stairway to Heaven, Genesis 28:1-22)
 - Life Story (Jared Jones on how God is always with us)



4. SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- True sign
- False sign
- Masking tape
- 2 pylons
- 2 Frisbee rings
- Grab bag prizes

Before the Activity:

- Tape the true and false signs onto the pylons.

Leader Tip:

- Encourage teammates to take turns tossing the Frisbee ring and answering questions.

Instructions:

- Split the kids into 2 teams but have them sit in 1 circle.
- Place the pylons in the middle of the circle.
- Give 1 person from each team a Frisbee ring.
- Read aloud the statements listed below. Do steps e and f after each statement.
 - You can hide from God. [False; correct answer is this week's Big Idea: **God is with us wherever we go**]
 - Today's story was about a man named Moses. [False; correct answer is Jacob]
 - Jacob slept with a rock as his pillow. [True]
 - In Jacob's dream, angels went up and down an elevator. [False; correct answer is a stairway]
 - God spoke to Jacob in his dream. [True]
 - God told Jacob that he was going to be a doctor. [False; correct answer is that God made a promise to Jacob and told him that he would be with Jacob wherever he went]
 - We never have to worry about being alone. [True—**God is with us wherever we go!**]
 - God wants you to leave him alone sometimes. [False; correct answer is that God wants to be with us all the time and everywhere]
- Direct the teams to toss their Frisbee ring around whichever answer (true or false) they believe is correct.
- If the answer is false, ask the 1st person to toss their Frisbee ring onto the false sign to provide the true

- answer. If they answer correctly, give them a prize.
- Wrap up the activity by praying for your group and thanking God for always being with us.

5. KEY VERSE ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- Key verse activity page
- Ribbons
- Small craft sticks
- Heart stickers
- Glue sticks
- Markers
- Sample photo

Leader Tip:

- If you don't have time to complete this activity, send home an activity page, 1 piece of ribbon, 1 craft stick, and 1 heart sticker with each person. Show the kids the sample photo and provide instructions for what to do at home.

Instructions:

- Give each person a key verse activity page.
- Place the other supplies where everyone can reach them.
- Show the sample photo to everyone to give them ideas for decorating their activity pages.
- Encourage the kids to decorate their activity pages.
- Read aloud this month's key verse and then practise saying it together as a group.
- Discuss what the verse means to the kids.
- Encourage them to take home the activity page and use it to help them learn the verse this month.

Os Our Story

6. DISMISSAL

Supplies:

- Take home cards
- Crafts

Before Dismissal:

- Place take home materials where everyone can access them easily.

Leader Tip:

- Briefly tell parents about their kids' experiences. Many parents will only hear about the morning from you.

Instructions:

- a. Greet parents as they arrive to pick up their kids.
- b. Give take home cards to parents.
- c. Remind kids to take their crafts.
- d. Make sure the kids' security numbers match parents' numbers before they leave.