

Bible Story Jacob has a dream and makes a vow at Bethel. Genesis 28:1-22



God's Path God is with us wherever we go.



Memory Verse "I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go..."
Genesis 28:15 (NIV)

Getting Your Act Together

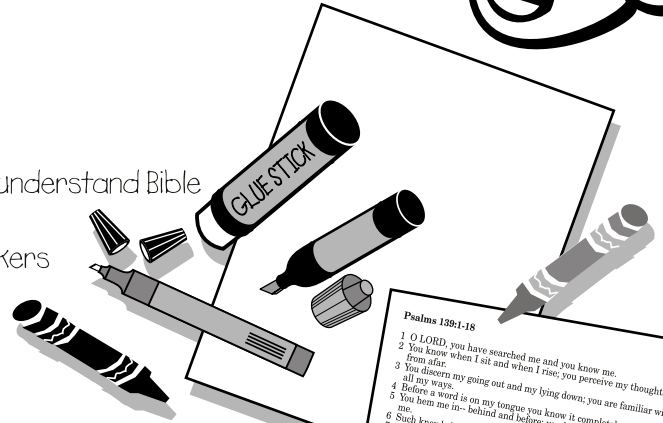


Read:

Genesis 28:1-22

Gather:

- Children's or easy-to-understand Bible
- White paper
- Crayons or magic markers
- Glue sticks
- Glitter for the angels



For Older Children:

Make a copy of Psalm 139:1-18 (see Parent/Teacher Letter at the end of this lesson). Cut up verses.

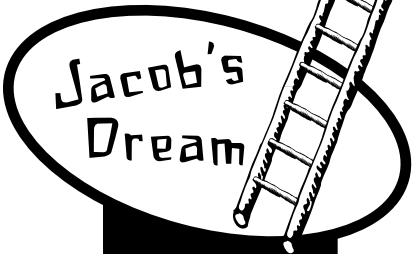
Snack Ideas Angel food cake and punch.



Psalms 139:1-18

- 1 O LORD, you have searched me and you know me.
- 2 You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts all my ways.
- 3 You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my paths.
- 4 Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O LORD.
- 5 You hem me in-- behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me.
- 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.
- 7 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?
- 8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
- 9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,
- 10 even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.
- 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the night will hold me tight around me,"
- 12 even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.
- 13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.
- 15 My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth,
- 16 your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.
- 17 How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!
- 18 Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with you. (NIV)





Jacob's Dream

Putting It All Together



As kids arrive

Opener Options

- Hand out coloring sheets with crayons and markers.
- Hand out white paper with crayons to draw a ladder; then have kids draw an angel shape with a glue stick and sprinkle with glitter!
- Have older kids cut up Psalm 139:1-18, and have them each pick a verse for activity time.

Prayer "Dear Lord, we thank You that You go with us wherever we go. Help us to remember You are there desiring friendship and worship."

Story and Activity Time After you tell or read the story from Genesis 28:1-22, ask questions like:

- Why did Jacob leave home?"
- What did he sleep on?
- What was his dream like?
- What did the Lord say to him?
- What vow did Jacob make?

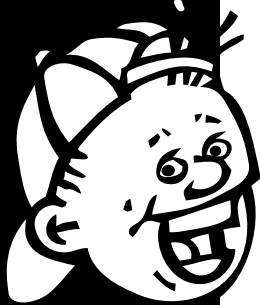
After they answer questions, let them share stories about their dreams. Reinforce that God is always with us. Memorize the memory verse (Genesis 28:15).

Older kids can take turns standing and saying their parts of Psalm 139:1-18, starting with verse 1, then 2, etc.

Snack - Eat angel food cake and punch together.



Jacob's Dream



Did You Know?

Dear Parents and Teachers,

This week's lesson is about Jacob's dream, from Genesis 28:1-22. Even though Jacob has to leave his family, God goes with him and gives him a dream of heaven opening up. God speaks in the dream to Jacob, "I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go..." (Genesis 28:15)

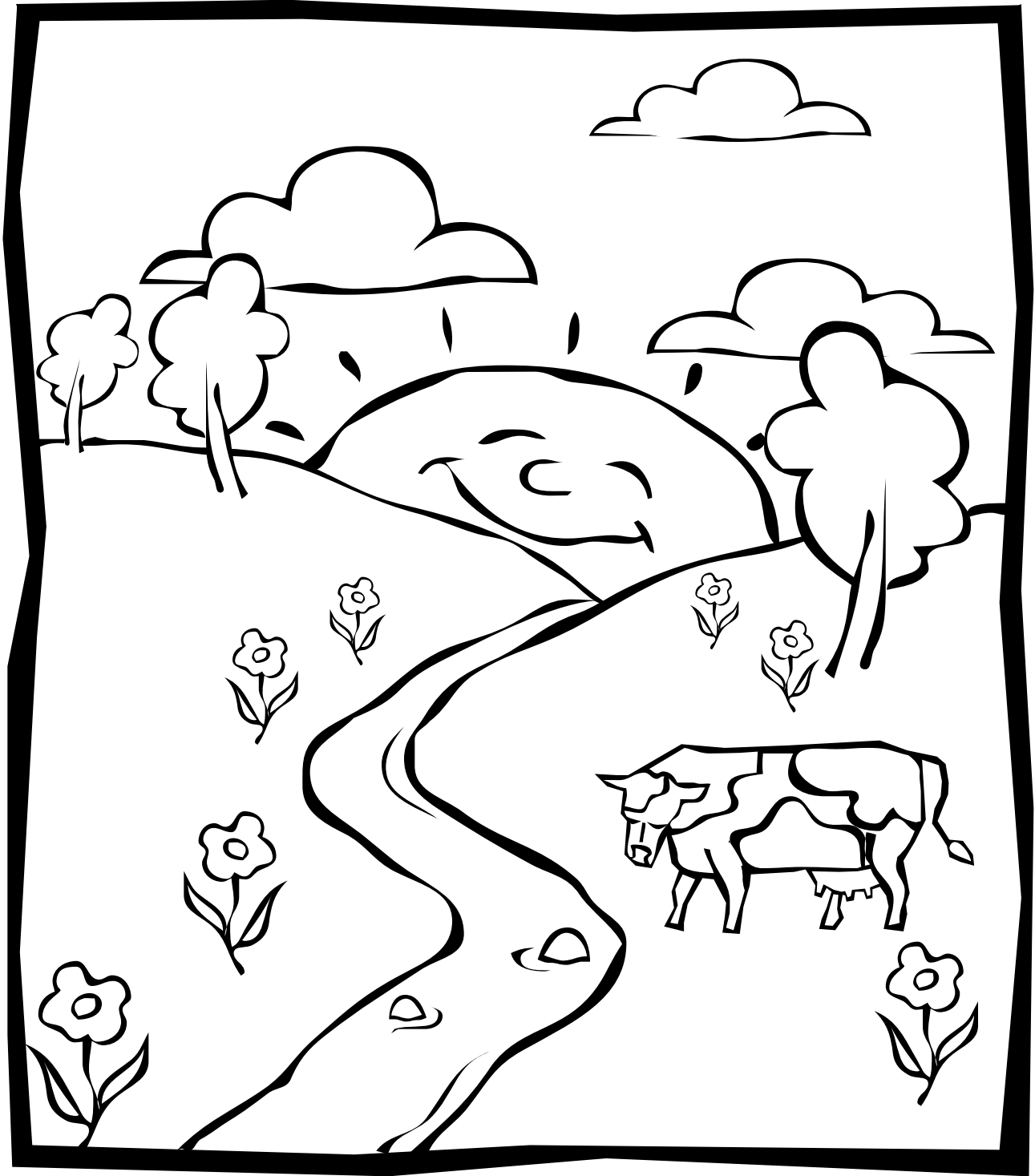
What comfort these words must have been for Jacob. We can claim those same words for ourselves today. We serve a God who sacrificed His very life for us. Let's believe He goes with us wherever we go.



Psalms 139:1-18

- 1 O LORD, you have searched me and you know me.
- 2 You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.
- 3 You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.
- 4 Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O LORD.
- 5 You hem me in-- behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me.
- 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.
- 7 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?
- 8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
- 9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,
- 10 even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.
- 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,"
- 12 even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.
- 13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.
- 15 My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth,
- 16 your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.
- 17 How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!
- 18 Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with you. (NIV)

When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it." He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven." Genesis 28:16-17



How we see God is kind of like how we see the sun. When we are following God, we feel his warmth, and His presence brightens up our day. But, sometimes we forget about God and our lives seem cold and dark like the middle of the night. The reality is, God is still there like the sun. When we call on Him He rises like the dawn to comfort us and shines His bright light all around so we can see things more clearly. Stay close to God this week.



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

