



**PHUMC Sunday School lessons for Preschool – 5<sup>th</sup> grade.**

## **November 22, 2020 – Jacob’s Ladder (Genesis 28:10-22)**

### **Prepare to Wonder**

### **Faith Word: Blessing**

**As Jacob was leaving his home and traveling to Haran, he grew very tired. He lay his head down next to a stone and after falling asleep, he had a very vivid dream. He dreamed that there was a large staircase that started on the ground and reached into the sky. God appeared in Jacob’s dream and promised to be with Jacob and to bless him and all of his descendants.**

**Jacob believed that the stone was in a special and holy space, and knew he would never forget this dream. Jacob was also scared by the dream. He was not expecting to be in the presence of God while snoozing on a rock. God made God’s presence known to Jacob.**

**God sometimes shows up in our own lives in very unexpected ways. We might not have a vivid dream of angels and staircases. However, there might be times when we least expect it that God leads us and shows us a new way. This can happen through prayer, meditation, a walk outside, or even a conversation. There is no limit to where God might show up.**

**Moments with children can also be a reminder to us of God’s presence. A child’s laughter, words, or even play can serve as a way for us to recognize God’s promise to continue working in the world. I we will pay attention, we can find God everywhere!**

### **Spiritual Practice for Adults**

**Take time this week to be still and to just listen for God. Find a quiet place, away from distractions. Find a comfortable position for your body to relax. Close your eyes and put your hand over your heart. Feel the love of God beating in your heart as you quiet your mind and listen for God. You are inviting God to visit by sitting in silence. It is important to give space to God to speak in our hectic lives.**

### **WONDER together**

**Do you think sleeping upon a stone would be comfortable?**

**Have you ever had an interesting dream?**

## **CONTINUE to Wonder**

**When have you noticed a blessing in your life?  
How are you a blessing for God?**

## **Wonder with Me**

### **READ the Bible Story**

**Genesis 28:10-22 (Read from your Bible or see below for the Celebrate Wonder version)**

**Roll the Wonder Cube. Take time to answer a few of the questions.**

**\*To make the Wonder Cube that will be used for 13 weeks, print off the Cube template (see below), cut out, and fold on the dotted lines. Tape or glue the flaps together to create a cube.**

### **WATCH the Bible Story**

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7wOrK2yWy8>

### **SHARE the Faith Word**

**Faith Word: BLESSING – A blessing is all the things God provides.**

**WONDER: Was Jacob blessed in the Bible story?**

### **Spiritual Practice**

**Share the Celebrate Wonder Family Activity Book together (page 26 & 27). Spend some time talking about the material on the pages. Challenge everyone in the family to participate in the Spiritual Practice activity for this week (on pg. 27).**

**Celebration Chart – (See below) print one for each child. Display them on your refrigerator. Help your child mark a space each time he/she completes an item on the chart. When the vertical, horizontal, or diagonal line is completed, celebrate together!**

### **Go in Peace**

**Blessing: Bless your child by touching them and saying “You are a blessing from God. Thank you, God, for \_\_\_\_\_ (child’s name).”**

**Prayer: Thank you, God, for being with me all the time and for blessing me. Amen.**

### **Additional Activity for each age group**

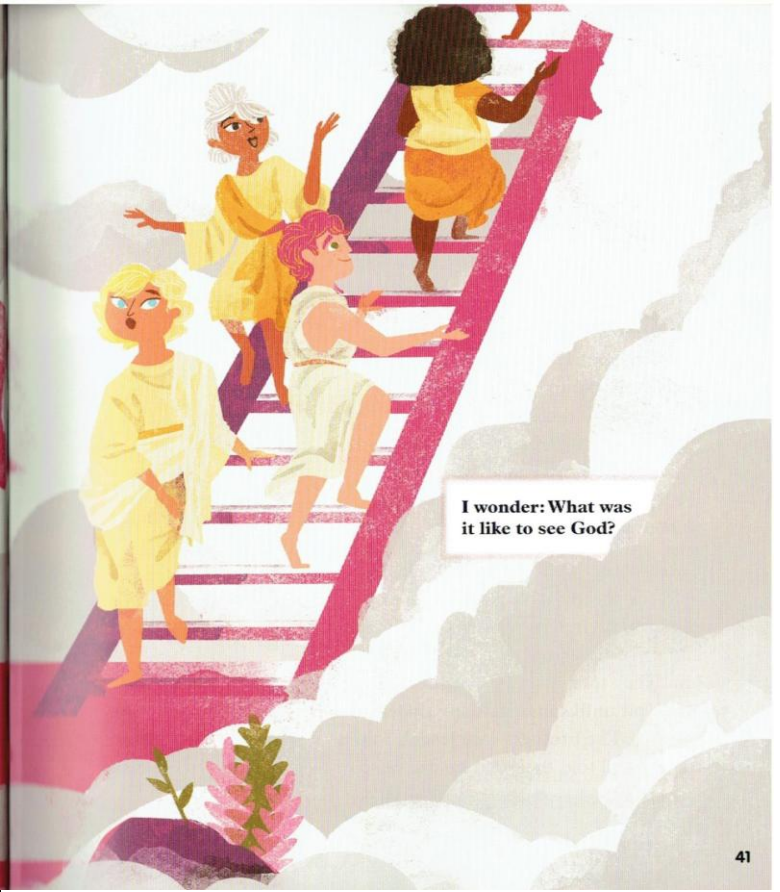
**Select the material toward the end of the lesson that is age appropriate for your child(ren)**

**Jacob's Ladder**

Genesis 28:10-22

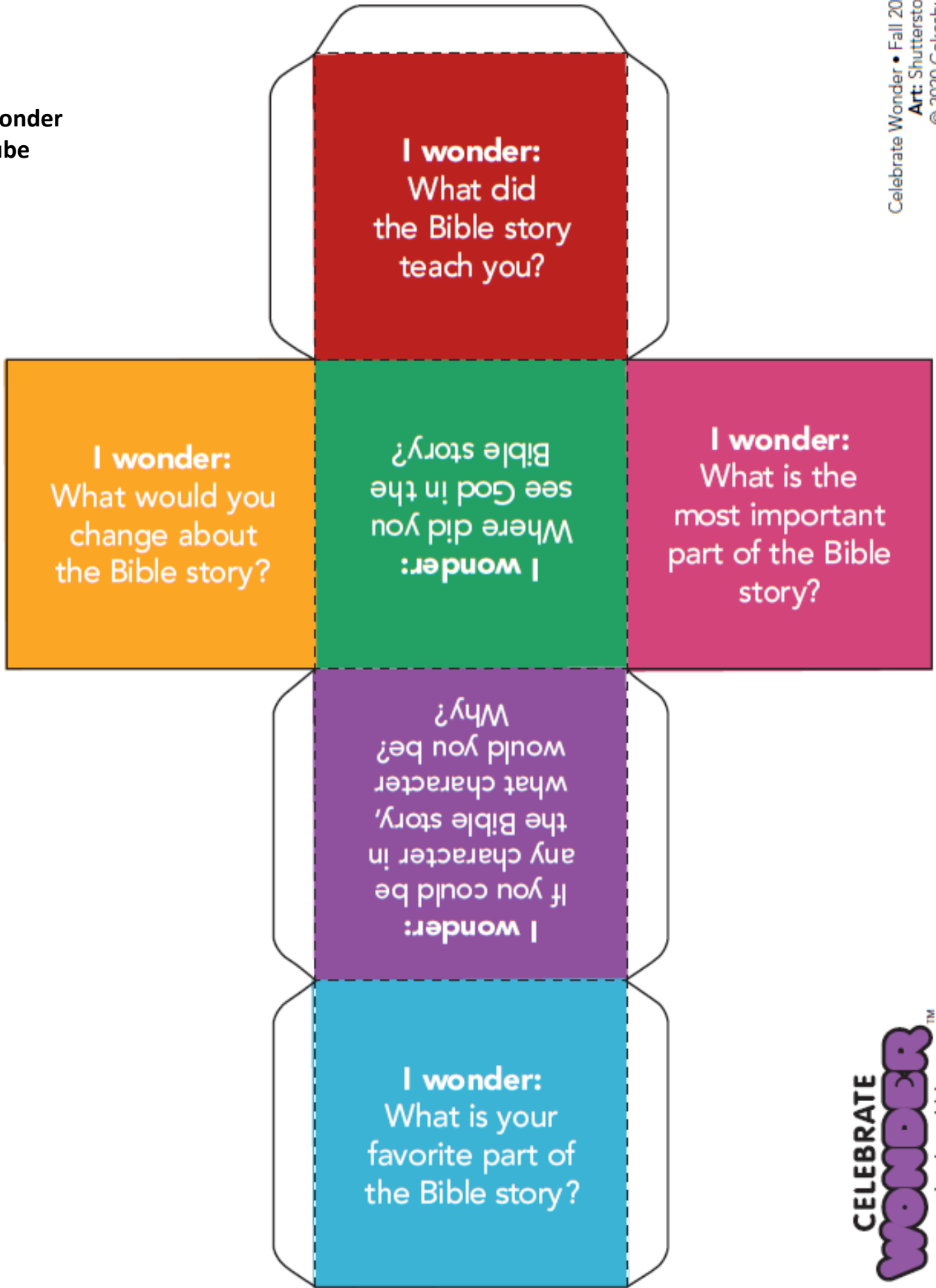
Jacob stole Esau's blessing. Esau was very angry. Jacob was very scared, so he ran away to his uncle's house. After a day of walking, Jacob was sleepy. He lay his head on a rock and fell fast asleep.

Jacob dreamed about God. He saw a ladder going from the ground up to the sky. God's messengers went up and down. God appeared and said, "Jacob, I am always with you. You will be a blessing." Jacob woke up and knew that God would always be with him.



I wonder: What was it like to see God?

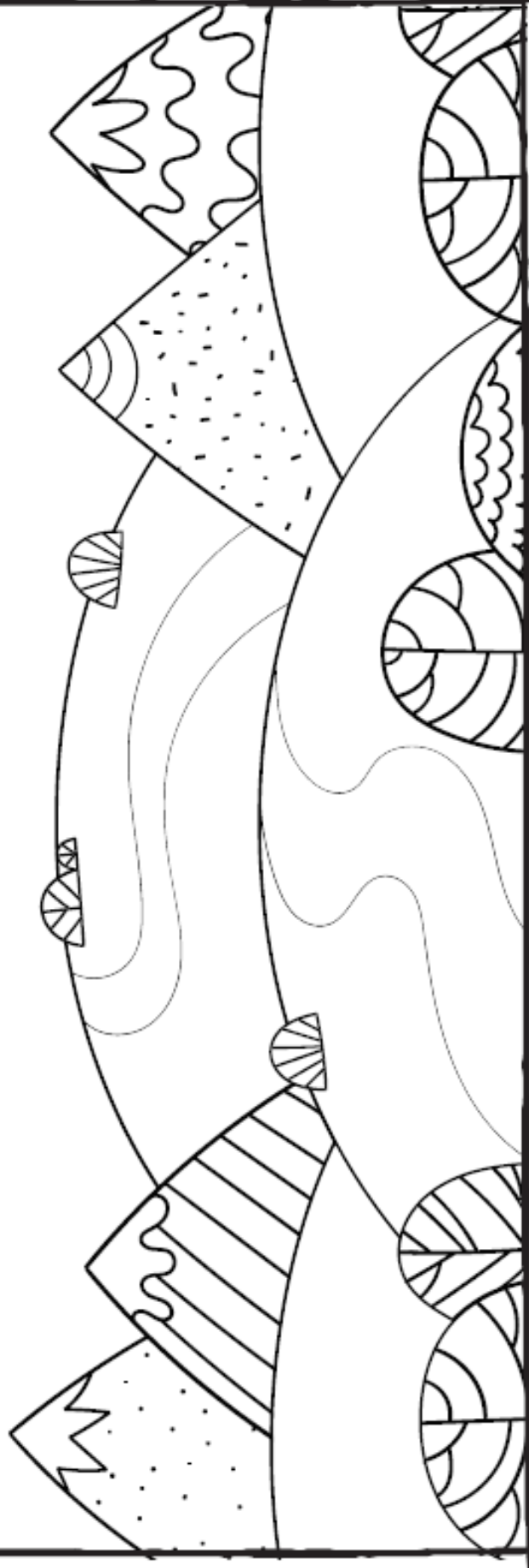
**Wonder  
Cube**



Place the chart on your refrigerator, kitchen table, or in an easy-to-access place. Throughout the week, have your child mark a space each time he or she completes an item on the chart. When a vertical, horizontal, or diagonal line is completed, celebrate together!

<b>CELEBRATE</b>				
Saw beauty in nature	Was kind to animals	Cared for living things	Was kind to a friend	Helped someone
Saw something good	Spent time in nature	Cleaned up trash	Took care of plants	Recycled
Laughed	Made someone laugh	Free Celebration!	Encouraged a friend	Showed hospitality
Said a table blessing	Shared with someone	Prayed for blessings	Prayed for good choices	Blessed someone
Prayed for someone	Prayed for peace	Made peace	Was friendly	Prayed for community

# BLESSING



# Preschool Activity

## Alter Rock (Art)

**Supplies:** Rock, Paint, Paintbrush, supplies to cover the table

**Prepare Ahead:** Search outside for a rock big enough for your child to paint. Clean the rock off before they begin.

**Say:** Jacob used a rock to lay his head on when he rested. After God came to Jacob in his dream, Jacob knew he was in a holy place. Jacob built an alter of stones to God in that place.

You can make your own alter to help you remember that God is always with you and to help you remember to listen for God.

- Have your child paint their rock.
- Let it dry and then place the painted rock in your child's room so that it can serve as a special alter where when seen they can be reminded that God is with them and they can always come to him. Remind them that God will listen to them and God wants them to listen to Him as well.



# Early Elementary Activity

## Stone Story (Interactive)

**Supplies:** rocks or stones, permanent markers

**Go outside and find a medium or large sized rock or stone. Paint or decorate your rock by drawing something that represents a different part of today's Bible story.**

**Wonder:** What does God want us to know from hearing this story?





# Older Elementary Activity

## Wherever You Go (Discussion)

**Supplies: None**

Today we learned about how God went with and protected Jacob on a journey. Our Bible verse reminds us of that. "I am with you now, I will protect you everywhere you go." Genesis 28:15

- Where are some places you feel God with you?
- Let's pray to feel God's presence with us wherever we are.  
Pray: God, thank you for your protection. We pray to feel the comfort of your protection wherever you go. Amen



# Jacob or Esau Activity Sheet



## Jacob or Esau?

- Was the youngest son.
- Sold his birthright for food.
- Grabbed the heel of his brother.
- Was the oldest son.
- Rebecca loved the best.
- Had red hair.
- Stayed near home.
- Was a great hunter.
- Isaac loved him best.
- Lied to his father.
- Tricked his father into giving him his brother's blessing.
- Covered hands with goatskin.
- Was very hungry.
- Had a dream about a ladder or steps to heaven.
- Wore his brother's clothes.
- Cooked some stew.
- Was hairy all over.