



Bible Truth

God showed Jacob in a dream that he would keep him and be with him always.

Scripture

Genesis 28:10–22



Lesson Focus

God promises to keep us and be with us always.

Goals for the Children

- Tell what God said to Jacob.
- Learn that God promises to constantly care for his own.
- Praise and thank God for always caring for them.



Memory Minute

[God said,] I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go.

Genesis 28:15a

Lesson Six

God Speaks to Jacob

Heart Preparation & Bible Background

As we follow the unfolding of God's plan to fulfill his promise of a Savior to Adam and Eve, we discover more about God's revelation of himself and his covenant with his people. In his plan to redeem his own, he sent Seth, preserved Noah and his family, and called and blessed Abraham and Sarah, giving them Isaac, the heir of promise.

Jacob, the son of Isaac and Rebekah, was next in the line of promise; he was God's choice to receive the blessing of Abraham. Yet Jacob reached out in sinful deception to grasp it for himself, and as a result he was sent away from his father's home: His mother wanted him to escape his brother's anger against him, so his father told him to go back to his mother's people and find himself a wife.

On his way to his uncle's home, Jacob had an encounter with God. In a dream at night, the Lord told Jacob that he was the God of Abraham and of Isaac, and now would be the God of Jacob. God took the initiative to bind himself to undeserving Jacob in blessing and covenant promise. God would live with Jacob always, give him many descendants, bring him back to his own land and always care for Jacob wherever he went.

When Jacob awoke early the next morning, he was in awe of God's amazing grace and presence. "Surely the LORD is in this place," Jacob declared, and he named the spot Bethel, meaning "the house of God." It was there that God had communed with Jacob for the first time, and now Jacob was responding in faith and commitment. His long journey of trusting in the Lord was just beginning.

In his love and mercy, God calls sinners into his covenant family. His promise to be with Jacob and watch over him is our promise as well. Those for whom Christ died can never be snatched out of the Father's hand (John 10:29), and he has given us everything we need to trust him and serve him (2 Peter 1:3).

Praise the Lord for his promise to constantly care for his own. Thank him for the gift of faith he bestows and ask him to enable you, and the children you teach, to serve him faithfully.