



Jacob's Ladder

Genesis 27:42-45; 28:10-22

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Jacob had sinned. He had lied and he had tricked his father. He made his brother so angry his brother wanted to kill him. Jacob had to leave to escape his brother's anger.

Jacob would have to walk many miles to the home of his uncle who lived in a faraway country. Jacob walked and walked. Finally the sun went down and it was nighttime. Jacob lay down under the starry sky and rested his head upon a rock. Maybe he thought about his family and how he missed them. Maybe he thought about how good it would feel to be back in his own bed. Maybe Jacob was lonely or afraid. We don't know what Jacob was thinking. But God knew Jacob's thoughts. God knows everything.

Soon Jacob was asleep.

While Jacob slept, God gave him a special dream. In the dream, Jacob saw a ladder or stairway between heaven and earth. Angels were walking up and down the steps. At the top stood God Himself. God said, "I am the LORD, the God of your fathers. I will give you and your family the land on which you are sleeping. The Savior of the world will be born to them. I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go."

When Jacob woke up, he said, "The LORD is in this place." Jacob remembered the words God had said. He knew now he was not alone. God was with him. He set up the rock as a memorial—a reminder of God's message of promise in that place. Jacob thanked and praised God.

God watches over us.



Parents: Sit with your child on a stairway. Say, "This stairway makes me think of the stairway in Jacob's dream. What God said to Jacob is also true for us—God will be with us wherever we go. God sends His holy angels to watch over us. And God has blessed all people through Jesus, who came down from heaven to be our Savior. God is good to us."