



Jacob's Ladder

God is everywhere — even in your dreams!



The Long Road



Jacob was in **BIG trouble**.
 He had tricked his brother Esau — not once, but **twice**!
 Now Esau was so angry he wanted to fight.
 So Mom and Dad said: "Run away to Uncle Laban's house!"
 No goodbye party. No friends waving.
 Just Jacob, his walking stick, and a long, lonely road.
 He walked until his feet hurt and the sun went down.

JACOB SAYS:

"I'm all alone now. What if nobody helps me? What if God forgot me?"

But God had **NOT** forgotten him.

*"Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran." —
 Genesis 28:10*



Pack for a Scary Trip

Jacob left in a hurry. If you had to leave home quickly, what 3 things would YOU grab?
 Draw them! Remember: God doesn't need a suitcase to come with you!



A Stone Pillow



The sun disappeared. Stars came out.
 The desert got cold. **Very** cold.
 Jacob had no tent. No blanket. No bed.
 He looked around and found a flat stone.
 He used it as a **PILLOW**! (Ouch!)
 It was hard, cold, and uncomfortable.
 But Jacob was so tired he fell right asleep.
 Under an ocean of twinkling stars.



Tiny Truth

Sleeping on a rock is not fun. But God doesn't wait for perfect beds or perfect days. He shows up when things are **hard**!



Rock Pillow Prayer

Find a smooth rock. Write "**God is Here**" on it with a marker.
 Put it by your bed. When you see it, remember: God watches over you all night!

Heaven's Stairway



While Jacob slept, something **AMAZING** happened!
He dreamed a wild, wonderful dream.
A giant **ladder** (or stairway) stood right beside him.
It touched the **GROUND** where he lay.
And it reached all the way up to **HEAVEN**!
The ladder glowed with warm golden light.

 **JACOB SAYS:**

"WOW! I can see heaven from my stone pillow!"

It was brighter than the stars. Brighter than the moon.
It was heaven's highway — right in the desert!

Staircase of Praise

Draw a ladder in your notebook. On each step, write one thing that is **awesome** about God!

Example: Good, Strong, Kind, Near, Mighty...

Angels on the Move



Beautiful **angels** with shining wings were all over the stairs!

They weren't flying — they were using God's special staircase!

Some angels carried messages **UP** to God.

Some brought God's answers **DOWN** to earth.

Up and down. Down and up.

The ladder was **OPEN** all night long!

It was like God's front door — right beside sleeping Jacob.

This was the **COOLEST** dream ever!

"He dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven." — Genesis 28:12

Tiny Truth

Heaven is **REAL**. And it is closer than we think! God opens the door between heaven and earth whenever He wants to!

☀️ God Speaks



At the very top of the ladder stood Someone wonderful.

It was **GOD** Himself!

God spoke loud and clear — and His voice was FULL of love:

☀️ GOD SAYS:

"I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land you are lying on, I will give to YOU and your children!"

God made **HUGE** promises:

- 🏠 The land would belong to Jacob's family
- 👨‍👩‍👧 His family would be like **dust** — too many to count!
- 🌍 Every family on earth would be **blessed** through him

Jacob felt warm and safe — even in the cold desert!

✍️ Promise List

Make a list of **3 promises** God gives to YOU in the Bible.
Hint: "I will never leave you" (Hebrews 13:5) is a great start!

🤝 Promise Keeper



Then God said the **BEST** promise of all:

☀️ GOD SAYS:

"Behold, I am WITH YOU and will keep you wherever you go... I will NOT leave you until I have done all that I have promised you."

Jacob was running from danger.

He felt small and scared.

But God said, "**I GO WITH YOU.**"

God is everywhere — not just in church.

Not just when we're good.

God is in the **desert**. In the **dark**. In the **scary** places.

God is in our **DREAMS**!

"I am with you and will keep you wherever you go." — Genesis 28:15

💡 Tiny Truth

When you feel small, remember — God is **BIG**, and He never leaves your side. Not even for one second!

🛡️ Fear vs. Promise

Write down one thing you are scared of.

Now write God's promise next to it: "**I will be with you.**"

☁️ Jacob Wakes Up!



Jacob opened his eyes. The sun was shining.
The ladder was gone. The angels were gone.
But Jacob sat up **STRAIGHT** and shouted:

😬 JACOB SAYS:

"Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did NOT know it!"

This place was special. Jacob named it **BETHEL**.
That means **"House of God."**
He took the stone he had used as a pillow.
He stood it up STRAIGHT like a little tower.
Then he poured **OIL** on top of it!
This was his way of saying, **"God was HERE!"**

"How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God." — Genesis 28:17

🏠 Build a Bethel

Use blocks or stones to build a small tower.
Put a candle or light near it. Say out loud: **"God is here!"**

🙏 Jacob's Big Promise



Jacob talked to God and made a promise back:

😬 JACOB SAYS:

"If God will be with me and keep me in this way that I go... then the LORD shall be my God!"

Jacob promised to follow God forever.
He promised to give back a **tenth** of everything God gave him.
Jacob stood up tall. He dusted off his clothes.
He wasn't scared anymore.
Something had changed in the night.
He wasn't just Jacob-the-runaway anymore.
He was **Jacob-the-promised. Jacob-loved-by-God.**
And the best part? God's promise went with him **EVERYWHERE.**

☀️ God Is Everywhere!

God is with you at **school**, at **home**, in the **car**, under the covers at night...
And YES — even in your **dreams!**

**Build a Stairway to Heaven**

1. Cut 6-8 strips of colored paper or use cardboard tubes.
2. Glue or tape them into a ladder shape.
3. Draw little paper angels and clip them to the steps.
4. Write God's promises on each step: "I am WITH you," "I will KEEP you," "I will NOT leave you."
5. Stand your ladder up by your bed and remember Jacob's dream!

**Bethel Stone Reminder**

1. Find a smooth rock or stone outside.
2. Wash it and let it dry.
3. Use paint, nail polish, or markers to write "BETHEL" or "God is Here."
4. Decorate it with stickers or glitter if you want!
5. Put it by your bed. When you see it, pray: "Thank You God for being HERE."

Memory Verse Song (Tune: "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"):

*"Jacob slept with stone so hard,
 Dreamed of stairs to heaven's yard!
 Angels up and angels down,
 God is here, He wears the crown!
 God is with you, do not fear,
 Heaven's ladder is so near!"*

**Family Discussion Time**

1. Why was Jacob running away? Have you ever felt like running from a problem?
2. Jacob's pillow was a hard stone! Have you ever had to sleep somewhere uncomfortable? What happened?
3. What did Jacob SEE in his dream? How do you think he felt when he woke up?
4. What were God's BIG promises to Jacob? Which one makes YOU feel brave?
5. Jacob said, "Surely God is in this place — and I did not know it!" Where have you discovered God was closer than you thought?
6. Jesus called Himself the ladder between heaven and earth (John 1:51). How does Jacob's dream help us understand that Jesus connects us to God?

Story #8 of the Biblical Adventure Series. Faith-building visual storytelling for family discipleship.

Next Story Preview: Joseph's Colorful Coat — God turns tears into triumph! (Genesis 37)

God Is Everywhere

— Even In Your Dreams!

When you're scared,
When you're small,
When you can't see heaven at all...
God is working,
God is near,
Open your eyes —
His promises are here! ★

📖 Next in this Series:

Joseph's Colorful Coat

God turns tears into triumph!

Story #9 Coming Soon

Scripture quotations from the ESV® Bible.
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