



Merge- August 24

Bible Story: Jacob's Dream • *Genesis 28:10-22 (supporting: Genesis 25:19-34; 27)*

Conversation Starter: What helps you remember that God is with you?

Bottom Line: You can trust that God is with you.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see.* Hebrews 11:1 (NirV)

What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive
- Have a couple students be door greeters, a couple more help with communion in the big church and a few more to volunteer to stay and help with the littles once we finish in the elementary room.

I took out the activity time before lesson because so many students are passing out communion or door greeters.

Instead, spend this time playing games with the students or talking to them about how their week went.

This is the get to know your students time.

9:05/10:50 Leave for the Elementary Room

9:45/11:30 Leave for the Merge room



Please take time to Pray!

Communion

What You Do:

First - have one of the students pass out communion once everyone is seated.

Discuss communions and the importance of taking it and have one of the students pray.

Complete The Story

What You Need:

- ☐ Markers
- ☐ Clipboards
- ☐ Paper

What You Do:

- Instruct the kids to sit in a circle, putting some space between them and the kid next to them.
- Give each kid a clipboard, a marker, and a stack of paper that is equivalent to the number of kids in the group.
 - For example, if you have eight kids, each clipboard should have eight sheets of paper.
- On the first page, instruct kids to write about a situation in which it would be important to remember that God is with them.
 - If kids are stumped, share these examples: taking a big test, or moving to a new school
- After a minute or so, direct the kids to pass their clipboards to their left.
- On the second page, instruct the kids to draw a simple picture representing the words on the first page.
- Once they're finished, encourage the kids to move the first paper with the words on it to the back of the stack.
- Instruct the kids to pass the clipboards to the left again.
- Direct the kids with the clipboards to use the picture to write a short description of what they think the picture represents on the next page, then move the paper with the picture to the back of the stack.
- Keep passing, alternating between drawing and writing until each person has their original stack of paper back.

- Encourage the kids to read and share what they originally wrote and how their message changed.
- Discuss with your group:
 - Why is it a situation where you'd want to know God is with you?
 - How can you remind yourselves of God's presence in hard times?
 - Is it a sign of weakness or strength to rely on God?
- ***[Make It Personal] (Share an age-appropriate time when you knew God was with you. How did God show up and remind you that He was there?)***

Ask:

- What helps you remember that God is with you?
- Would Jacob be someone you would trust all the time? Why or why not?
 - And yet Jacob *is* part of God's plan. How does that encourage you to trust God, knowing that even when you mess up, God still loves you and is working toward His good plan?
- Abraham and Jacob were part of God's Big Story. What about us? How do we fit into God's plan today? *(God invites us into a relationship with Him through Jesus! When we choose to follow Jesus and share His love with others, we are a part of God's Story!)*
- What does Jacob's story tell us about God's character and His love for us?