

FAMILY CONNECTION

Use these discussion starters to help foster a spiritual conversation with your family.

FALL 2025

Unit 2, Session 5

CONNECTION POINT:

Use unexpected downtime to prepare for what's next.

THE BIBLE MEETS

LIFE: We lead busy lives, but sometimes an unplanned event puts a stop to our plans. It might be a delayed flight, staying at home with a sick child, or something else that causes us to sit and wait. We can get frustrated, or we can make use of the delay to prepare for what God may have waiting for us. We can make “the most of the time” (Eph. 5:16) to focus on our walk with God.

LIVE IT OUT: Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to live out his or her faith.

PRESCHOOL

Scripture: Genesis 28

Live It Out: Review the Bible story. Clap as you say: “God is always with me, everywhere, every day. God is always with me when I am ...” Insert a time or place related to your child.

Jacob was going to visit his uncle, Laban. Jacob had walked all day. Jacob found a place to rest for the night. He found a smooth stone to use as a pillow.

As Jacob slept, he had a dream. In his dream, Jacob saw a stairway. The stairway reached from earth up to the sky. Jacob saw angels going up and down the stairway.

God said to Jacob, “I am God. I will give you this land where you are lying. You and your children will have this land. I will watch over you.”

Jacob woke up and wondered what his dream meant. He knew that God would be with him and help him. He knew that God would help him have food to eat and clothes to wear.

Jacob took the stone that he had used for a pillow and set it in a special place. The stone would help Jacob remember where God talked to him. Jacob thanked God for being with him.

KIDS

Scripture: Genesis 28

Live It Out: Encourage your child learn Deuteronomy 30:20. Help her write a litany to use in a family worship time. Write down times and places repeated by *God is always with me*.

Jacob set out on a long trip to see his uncle, Laban. He stopped for the night and Jacob took a stone and put it under his head to use as a pillow. Then he lay down and fell asleep.

Jacob had a dream. In the dream was a stairway that touched the ground and reached all the way to heaven. God’s angels were going up and down the stairs. God stood beside Jacob.

God said, “I am the Lord, I am the God Isaac and Abraham. I will give you and your children the land on which you are lying. All the people of the earth will be blessed through you and your family. I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go.” When Jacob woke up, he was amazed at his dream. He realized that God was there.

Jacob took the stone that had been his pillow and set it up as a reminder of God’s promises. He poured oil on top of the stone and named the place Bethel, which means “house of God.”

STUDENTS

Scripture: Acts 1:4-8,12-14; 2:1-4

- When has God worked in your life through a period of waiting?
- How is God calling you to grow in patience and trust?
- In your own words, what difference does the Spirit make in the lives of God’s people today?

Live It Out: Jesus was crucified on Passover and ascended forty days later. After another ten days of waiting, or fifty days after Passover, the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus’s followers. The Spirit came and empowered the church to carry out its mission. As Jesus’s followers, the Holy Spirit is in our lives and works throughout our lifetime to shape us into the likeness of Jesus when we’re patient and faithful.

Waiting can be difficult. We live in a hurried culture where people are often impatient. This week, spend time as a family slowing down and making space for healthy practices like prayer, Bible reading, and listening to worship music.