



## Family Worship Experience

READ THE SCRIPTURE

### JACOB AND ESAU



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of Genesis 25:27-34; 27:1-41 from the Bible.



## Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

Have you ever wanted something so badly that you'd do anything to get it ...even lie or cheat? Sometimes the people who create video games will also create cheat codes. These cheat codes are made to give you a special advantage and easily win the game. Even when you could win the game on your own, you might be tempted to use the cheat code to make it easier or faster.

Even though God had already promised that He would continue His covenant through Jacob and now Esau, Rebekah and Jacob chose to trick Isaac. They dressed Jacob up and pretended to be Esau so that he could receive the father's blessing. God had told Rebekah—before her children were even born—that Jacob would carry on the promise He had made to Abraham. Rebekah and Jacob had a hard time trusting and waiting on God's promise, so they lied and cheated to get what they wanted sooner.

The powerful message of this story is that God kept His promise to Rebekah about Jacob even though they didn't trust in His timing. That's the wonderful thing about God: He is faithful even when we are not. God always keeps His promises because He is faithful!

**God's covenant with Abraham continued to the next generation. Esau sold his birthright, giving Jacob the right to the wonderful blessings God promised to his father Abraham. Through Jacob's family, God would send the promised Savior to bring blessing and salvation to the world.**

***Pray:** God, You are in control over everything. You make all things work according to Your plan. Even when we are unfaithful, You always remain faithful and true. Thank you for keeping Your promises—including the greatest promise to send Jesus as the Savior who rescues us from sin. Amen.*



## Family Worship Experience

LEARN SCRIPTURE

*The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.*



**“You planned evil against me; God planned it for good to bring about the present result—the survival of many people.”**

Genesis 50:20



## Family Worship Experience

SING SCRIPTURE

Finish your family worship experience by playing the Key Passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



## **Family Prayer Time**

### **Mornings**

Thank God for His control over everything. How does God's supreme control over everything help you feel calm when life is hard?

### **Evenings**

Ask God to give you wisdom to obey Him and stay within His plan for your life. How does it feel to know that God had a plan for you before you were born? Why is it good for us to walk in the path He has for us?



## **Family Activities**

### **For Fun**

Gather scraps of colored paper. Rip the paper into small pieces about the size of a quarter. As a family, work together to create a piece of mosaic art using the torn pieces of paper. Some ideas might be to create a cross, your last name, or the word "Promise" using the paper pieces. As you work on the mosaic art, review the story of Jacob and Esau. Remind your kids that God was faithful to keep His promise to Rebekah even when she messed up. Like the torn pieces of paper forming a piece of art, God uses every part of our story—even the hard parts—to point us to Jesus. Through Jesus, God can take our broken lives and give new life that is for His glory!

### **To Serve**

Make a large pot of soup or chili. Divide the food and share with a neighbor or family member. If possible, share with them what your family is learning about God's faithfulness. Pray that the recipients of the food will trust and follow God's plan for their lives.



## Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

### JACOB FLED FROM CANAAN



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of Genesis 28:10-22 from the Bible.



## Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

The tallest building in the world is the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, UAE. It stands 2,717 feet tall and has 163 floors above ground. Let's say you were at the top of the building and the elevators weren't working ... you would have to walk down 2,909 stairs to make it to the ground! That's got to be the world's longest stairwell!

While he was sleeping, Jacob saw an even longer stairwell—stairs that went from earth to heaven. Jacob saw God's angels going up and down the stairs, and he heard God repeat the promise He had made to Abraham and Isaac. Jacob was convinced that God would keep His promise.

Jacob's vision shows us God's desire to be with His children. While our sin breaks the relationship we are meant to have with God, God would send His only Son, Jesus, to earth. Jesus would willingly give His life on the cross so that anyone who believes in Him can have a loving relationship with God forever and ever.

**In his dream, Jacob saw a stairway that went from earth to heaven. Jacob did not go up the stairway. God came down to talk to him. Jesus also came down from heaven to earth. Jesus made the way for people to come to God through His death and resurrection.**

***Pray:** Thank You, God, for giving us a picture of just how much You love us and want us to have a relationship with You. We praise You for sending Jesus to be the One who rescues us from sin. Help us know Him and trust in Him so that we can live in relationship with You. Amen.*





## Family Worship Experience

LEARN SCRIPTURE

*The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.*



**“You planned evil against me; God planned it for good to bring about the present result—the survival of many people.”**

Genesis 50:20



## Family Worship Experience

SING SCRIPTURE

Finish your family worship experience by playing the Key Passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



## **Family Prayer Time**

### **Mornings**

Ask God to make you aware of His presence today as you make choices, interact with friends, and seek to obey His Word. How does God's nearness help us to face each day with confidence? How can we depend on Him for help in our daily needs?

### **Evenings**

Praise God for sending Jesus to be Immanuel—God with us. Praise Jesus for humbling Himself and coming to live on earth with us. Most of all, thank Jesus for dying on the cross to save us from our sin.



## **Family Activities**

### **For Fun**

Challenge members to a stair race. See who can climb a set of stairs the fastest. You can make it more interesting by adding obstacles or doing it relay-style. As you rest after the activity, talk about Jacob's dream and what it teaches us about God's desire to be near us. Remind your kids that God sent Jesus from heaven to earth to save us from sin. Through faith in Jesus, one day we can be with God forever.

### **To Serve**

Write the words or phrases of a Bible verse on separate sheets of paper. Place the sheets on the stairs in your home or along a path your family walks often. As you walk the stairs or path this week, practice memorizing the verse by saying the words in order. Make it more of a challenge by removing some of the sheets during the week but challenging kids still say those words of the verse!





## Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

### JOSEPH TAKEN TO EGYPT



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of Genesis 37; 39–46; 50:15-21 from the Bible.



## Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

Have you ever ridden on a roller coaster? Roller coasters have a lot of ups and downs. In the book of Genesis, we meet a man named Joseph. Joseph's life was like a roller coaster, it was full of ups and downs. At first Joseph's life looked great—he was the favorite son, and he was even gifted with a beautiful coat. But his life took a sudden downward turn when his brothers sold him into slavery. He was even thrown into an Egyptian prison for a crime he didn't commit! Eventually his life started looking brighter again when he was freed from prison for telling Pharaoh what his bad dreams meant.

After Joseph was placed in charge of the food supplies in Egypt, his brothers came to buy food from him so that they could survive. Because Pharaoh had placed Joseph in charge, Joseph was able to save the lives of his family and all the people of Israel. Even though the story began with an evil plan, God used Joseph to save his entire family from the famine.

After the family had settled safely in Egypt, Joseph told his brothers, "You planned evil against me; God planned it for good to bring about the present result—the survival of many people." (Genesis 50:20). Joseph's life points us to Jesus as the greater rescuer! Jesus was hated by others. He was treated unfairly. He was punished for sins He did not commit. Every event of Jesus' life—even His death—was part of God's plan to save people from their sin. For those who believe in Jesus, His story has the happiest ending of all!

**Even when bad things were happening in Joseph's life, God had a plan for good. Bad things also happened to Jesus. Jesus never sinned, but He was arrested, beaten, and killed on a cross. Those things happened to bring about our good—so people could be saved from sin and death through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.**

***Pray:** God, thank You that we can trust You in every situation—good and bad. We know that You are always in control and nothing can stop You from doing what You have planned. Thank You for using Jesus' death to bring forgiveness and eternal life to all who believe. Amen.*



## Family Worship Experience

LEARN SCRIPTURE

*The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.*



**“You planned evil against me; God planned it for good to bring about the present result—the survival of many people.”**

Genesis 50:20



## Family Worship Experience

SING SCRIPTURE

Finish your family worship experience by playing the Key Passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



## **Family Prayer Time**

### **Mornings**

Ask God to help you trust Him in every situation. How can God's goodness help us trust Him in bad times?

### **Evenings**

Ask God to use your life to glorify Himself and to help others know Jesus. How does Joseph's story help us to trust God with our future? How will you remind yourself that God has a plan even when things go wrong?



## **Family Activities**

### **For Fun**

Bake bread or a similar treat (brownies, cinnamon rolls) together as a family. Give each family member a job like measuring, mixing, kneading, or shaping the dough. Talk about the cupbearer and baker that Joseph met in prison. Discuss how God used them in His plan. Then, discuss how God might use your family to help others know Jesus and believe in Him.

### **To Serve**

Gather food to donate to a food pantry or make a monetary donation to a food bank. Talk with kids about how your family can provide for others' needs to help them feel the love of Jesus and hear more about Him. Talk about how God used the hunger of Joseph's brothers to bring them to Egypt, which ultimately led to their salvation from the famine.



# Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

## THE SUFFERING OF JOB



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of the book of Job from the Bible.



## Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

If you read the newspaper or watch the evening news on TV, most of what you see is bad news. Sometimes it can cause us to ask: Why would God allow so many bad things to happen and so many people to suffer? When Job lost everything—including his family—he asked God a very similar question.

God reminded Job that He was all-powerful, always in control, and always good. Even though Job couldn't understand what God was doing, Job trusted in who God is. Through all the suffering, Job never turned away from God. In the end, God gave back to Job everything he had lost—and even more.

Romans 5:3-4 tells us that we can rejoice in suffering because “suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope ...” Even when we don't understand the suffering that is happening to us or someone around us, we can trust that God is good, He is present, and He is in control.

When we face hard things in life, we can still trust in God and His plans. Need proof? Just think about the cross. At the cross, God used the ultimate pain and suffering to bring the ultimate good news—our future and final salvation from sin.

**In his suffering, Job recognized that God is all-powerful and good. When we face suffering, we can hope in God. God sent Jesus, the only truly innocent One, to suffer and die so that everyone who trusts in Him can have forgiveness and eternal life.**

***Pray:*** God, help us always remember that You are in control. Help us to trust that You love us and have a plan for us—even when we face hard times. No matter what we face, help us to be faithful to You and to tell others about Your great love for us. Amen.





## Family Worship Experience

LEARN SCRIPTURE

*The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.*



**“You planned evil against me; God planned it for good to bring about the present result—the survival of many people.”**

Genesis 50:20



## Family Worship Experience

SING SCRIPTURE

Finish your family worship experience by playing the Key Passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



## **Family Prayer Time**

### **Mornings**

Ask God to help you bless His name even when things don't go well. Why could Job say "Blessed be His name" even when things were bad? How can we remember God's goodness in times of trouble?

### **Evenings**

Make a list of all the things you have to be thankful for. Praise God for the blessings He has given to you and your family. How can we share our blessings with others to help them know Jesus?



## **Family Activities**

### **For Fun**

Plan a day of fun for your kids, but do not tell them any of the details. If they ask where you're going or what you'll do, remind them to trust that you have a plan. After the day of fun, talk about how it can be frustrating to not know what will happen next. Even in those moments, we can trust that God is all-powerful, sovereign, and good. We can always trust His plans for us.

### **To Serve**

Visit an assisted living facility or hospital to comfort the residents. Read books, play games, or think of other tangible ways your family can bring peace and joy to their lives. Talk with kids about how we can be a comfort for those who are suffering because we can know and trust God as the ultimate source of comfort.