

K-3rd

Large Group

August — Week 4

# Large Group Leader Guide

## Today's Suggested Schedule

### Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

### Small Group (10 minutes)

#### Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

### Large Group (30 minutes)

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

### Small Group (20 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect 1. Bible Story

### Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org

THIS MONTH



### Today's Bible Story

## Jacob's Dream Genesis 28:10-22

Supporting: Genesis 25:19-34; 27

### Bottom Line

**You can trust that God is with you.**

### 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)**



### Inclusive Pro Tips

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces

5 Minutes

# Opener

15 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

## ① Opener

AUDIO -> Play high-energy music as kids enter.  
SLIDE -> Theme  
OPTIONAL VIDEO -> Theme Loop

→ *Host enters.*

OPTIONAL VIDEO -> Countdown  
OPTIONAL VIDEO -> Theme Intro  
OPTIONAL VIDEO -> Theme Loop

HOST: "Hey there, boys and girls! I'm so glad you're here today because we're going to be having LOTS of fun together! Everybody look at your neighbor and say: 'Are you ready for fun?' (PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.) Alright! This month we're talking about faith. Does anyone remember what faith is? (PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.) That's right! Faith is trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see.

"Let's all say our Memory Verse together

SLIDE -> Memory Verse

→ *Open the Bible to Hebrews 11:1 (NirV) and read.*

Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see. (NirV)

"That was great, friends! As we remember this verse, we can remember to have faith! Well, as you may remember, if you've been here this month, we're training to be superheroes all month long! And today we're working on our X-ray vision!

"I've got these 5 bags (HOLD UP ONE OF THE BAGS) and each one has a superhero in it. In just a minute, your group will write down five guesses of which superheroes are in these bags. Then I'll reveal them one at a time and you can see how many your group gets right! Okay, go ahead and make your five guesses!"

OPTIONAL VIDEO -> 60 second countdown

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5 Minutes

# Opener

15 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

- *Give groups one minute to write down their five guesses. Then open one bag at a time to reveal the superheroes, asking each time for groups to raise their hands if they got that one right. This game doesn't need to have a winner, so just celebrate every time a group gets one right!*

"That was really fun and you all did great! Alright, now it's time to tell God that we love Him with our worship team!"

10 MINUTES

# Worship

## ② Worship

→ *Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.*

WORSHIP LEADER: “Hey friends! I’m so excited to worship with you! Worship is giving praise and honor to God by singing and dancing. Let’s worship together!”

VIDEO: “CAN’T STOP SINGING” LIVE LYRICS

“We can always praise God! When we are happy, we can praise God; when we are sad, we can praise God. And we can ALWAYS praise God because He is with us!”

VIDEO: “MY LIGHTHOUSE” LIVE LYRICS

“Great job everyone! Let’s go ahead and sit down and hear our Bible Story today.”

15 MINUTES

# Story

## ③ Bible Story

SLIDE -> Theme Background

→ *Storyteller enters with a box of action figures as Worship Leaders exit.*

### SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Hi, friends! I want to share something SUPER-awesome that we’re doing for this next year! You might have heard me share this the last couple of weeks, but just to say it again, as we start this new school year, we’re going to be going through the story of the ENTIRE Bible together. ) Each week, to see the entire story that the Bible tells, we’ll add a picture to this timeline. We’re going to go through God’s Big Story!

SLIDE -> God’s Big Story

“This week, we’re still in the book of Genesis—that’s the very first book of the Bible. It tells all about the beginnings! So we’re starting God’s Big Story exactly where you think we should! In the beginning!

“As we saw a few weeks ago, in the beginning, God created the heavens, the Earth, and everything in it—including people! Of all the creatures God created, He made people special. We’re all made in the image of God, which means we were created to show each other what God is like. God is loving, so we can love others like He does! God is kind, so we can be kind! God is fair, so we can be fair!

“But rather than obeying God, Adam and Eve, the first people, sinned. They ushered in a curse that affected their hearts and the hearts of everyone who would live after them. Sin pulled them away from God. And it would pull everyone else away from God too. It broke their relationship with God.

“It also did something else awful. It brought sickness, pain, suffering, and death into the world.

“But God didn’t want to leave things that way! He loves us! From the beginning, God had a plan to rescue us and bring us back into relationship with Him! God chose one man, Abraham, and promised to bless the whole world through his family.

### SNEAKY JACOB

STORYTELLER: “After many long years, Abraham and Sarah had a son, Isaac, just as God had promised.

15 MINUTES

# Story

→ *Hold up Abraham and Sarah. Then hold up baby Isaac.*

“When Isaac grew up, he married a woman named Rebekah.

→ *Hold up Isaac and Rebekah.*

“Isaac and Rebekah had twin boys. Esau, the older son, was wild and hairy.

→ *Hold up Esau.*

“The younger son, Jacob . . . was not.

→ *Hold up Jacob.*

“Esau (HOLD UP ESAU) grew up to be a great hunter, while Jacob (HOLD UP JACOB) preferred to stay at home. Esau (hold up Esau) tended to be impatient, while Jacob (HOLD UP JACOB) could be sneaky. Esau (HOLD UP ESAU) was so impatient that he gave Jacob (HOLD UP JACOB) the position and possessions that came with being the oldest son—all for a bowl of soup! Can you believe that? Esau was hungry and Jacob had food. So, when Esau asked for some of the soup, Jacob offered it as a trade for Esau’s birthright!

“And Jacob (HOLD UP JACOB) didn’t stop there. When Isaac (HOLD UP ISAAC) grew old and weak, he called for Esau (HOLD UP ESAU) to come to him. It was time for Isaac to give Esau his special blessing as the oldest son. But while Esau went hunting to prepare a meal for his father, Rebekah (HOLD UP REBEKAH) quickly called for Jacob (HOLD UP JACOB) and talked him into disguising himself as Esau and sneaking in to see Isaac.

“His mother even covered Jacob’s arms with goat hair so that Isaac, who couldn’t see very well, would think he was Esau. And you know what? It worked. Isaac gave Jacob the special blessing!

## JACOB MEETS GOD

STORYTELLER: “When Esau (HOLD UP ESAU) discovered what had happened . . . he was angry. Like REALLY angry. Esau was so angry that he actually made plans to kill Jacob.

“Rebekah told Jacob (HOLD UP JACOB) to run away to her brother Laban in Harran, and to stay with him until Esau calmed down. Jacob left home. Alone. On the run. He was at the very beginning of about a 500-mile journey that would take weeks of walking. As the sun set that day, he was far away from everything he’d ever known, in the middle of the wilderness.

→ *Lay a stone underneath the Jacob action figure.*

“Jacob took a stone and placed it beneath his head as a pillow. He began to dream. Jacob saw a stairway (SET THE STAIRWAY ON THE TABLE NEAR JACOB) rising up from the Earth, stretching all the way up into heaven. Angels traveled up and down the steps.

15 MINUTES

# Story

→ *Open the Bible to Genesis 28:13-15 (NirV) and read.*

The LORD stood beside the stairway. He said, “I am the LORD. I am the God of your grandfather Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your children after you the land you are lying on. They will be like the dust of the earth that can’t be counted. They will spread out to the west and to the east. They will spread out to the north and to the south. All nations on earth will be blessed because of you and your children after you. I am with you. I will watch over you everywhere you go. And I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

## JACOB FOLLOWS GOD

STORYTELLER: “Jacob (HOLD UP JACOB) knew about the one true God that Abraham and Isaac worshiped. But there’s no record that Jacob himself had chosen to trust God until this moment.

→ *Open the Bible to Genesis 28:16 (NirV) and read.*

Jacob woke up from his sleep. Then he thought, “The LORD is surely in this place. And I didn’t even know it.”

“Early the next morning, Jacob took his pillow stone and turned it into a sacred stone. He poured oil over it as a sign that God was in that place. He called the place Bethel, which means: ‘House of God’.

→ *Open the Bible to Genesis 28:20-21 (NirV) and read.*

Then Jacob made a promise. He said, “May God be with me. May he watch over me on this journey I’m taking. May he give me food to eat and clothes to wear. May he do as he has promised so that I can return safely to my father’s home. Then you, LORD, will be my God.”

15 MINUTES

# Story

## ④ Bottom Line

### WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Jacob continued on his journey to Harran, where he lived for around twenty years. He got married and eventually had thirteen children—most of them in Harran! And Jacob did return home, just as God had promised.

“Jacob made many mistakes during his life and didn’t always trust God. But God was still with Jacob just like He promised. God was faithful, even when Jacob wasn’t.

SLIDE -> Bottom Line

[BOTTOM LINE] “You can trust that God is with you. Say that with me.”

STORYTELLER and KIDS: [BOTTOM LINE] “You can trust that God is with you.”

SLIDE -> Theme  
OPTIONAL VIDEO -> Theme Loop

## ⑤ What's Our Part in The Story?

HOST: “Jacob chose to trust when he actually got to see God in a dream. But we don’t have to see God with our eyes to have faith that God is with us. Because faith is trusting what you can’t see because of what you can see.

“Today, we can trust God because we have the privilege of reading the Bible and seeing how God has been at work throughout history. Over and over, we read how God was with His people. We see how God sent Jesus to be here on Earth with us too. Then we see how, after Jesus returned to heaven, God sent the Holy Spirit to be with everyone, everywhere who follows Jesus.

“We can trust God because we see over and over in His story, He is good.

“In the true story we read today, we see how even though Jacob made mistakes, God was still with him. You can trust that God is always with you too. Let’s take a look at the timeline.

SLIDE -> God’s Big Story  
SLIDE -> Week 4 Timeline Image

15 MINUTES

# Story

“This week we learned about a sneaky man who wasn’t always faithful, but God always was. Even if Jacob made sinful decisions, God was faithful to keep His promise. God kept His promises to Jacob, but He also was working on His great rescue plan. Because, generations later, from Jacob’s big family, would come Jesus. And Jesus would rescue us all.

→ *If you’re making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today’s timeline image on the clothesline.*

“When you look at this timeline, you can see that in each of these stories, when people’s lives were good and when they were bad, God was with them. God is with you too. He loves you and is walking through every step of life with you. So when you feel scared about what’s next, ask God to help you. Because He is there! Let’s go ahead and pray now together.

SLIDE ->Theme  
OPTIONAL VIDEO -> Theme Loop

## ⑥ Prayer

HOST: “Dear God, thank You for this story, which shows how faithful You are. When we feel like we can’t see You, help us know that You are with us. Teach us to live every moment that You are with us. Thank You for loving us so much. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

→ *Dismiss kids to their small groups.*

AUDIO -> Play high-energy music as the kids exit.  
SLIDE -> Theme  
OPTIONAL VIDEO -> Theme Loop