

Week 7

Jacob's Troubles

Jacob was a man who lied to his father and tricked his brother. His brother, Esau, became so angry he wanted to hurt Jacob. Both brothers were sinners. Both of the brothers were wrong.

Jacob decided to go far away to be safe. But he was afraid as he traveled. He was also sorry because he knew he had caused the problem. When it got dark, Jacob looked for a place to sleep outdoors under the starry sky. He found an open place where he could lay down. He covered himself with his robe and leaned his head against a rock.

During the night, Jacob had a dream. (*) In his dream, he saw a stairway that reached up to heaven. Jacob dreamed that angels were walking up and down the stairway and that God was at the top. God said to him, "I am with you, Jacob. I will take care of you. You will have a very big family of your own. And many years from now, the Savior will be born into your family."

When Jacob woke up, he was not afraid any more. Now, he was happy to know that God still loved him and forgave him. He was happy to know that God would

be with him and take care of him. Jacob took the stone he had used for a pillow. He set the stone up straight and tall. He worshiped and thanked God for being good and kind.

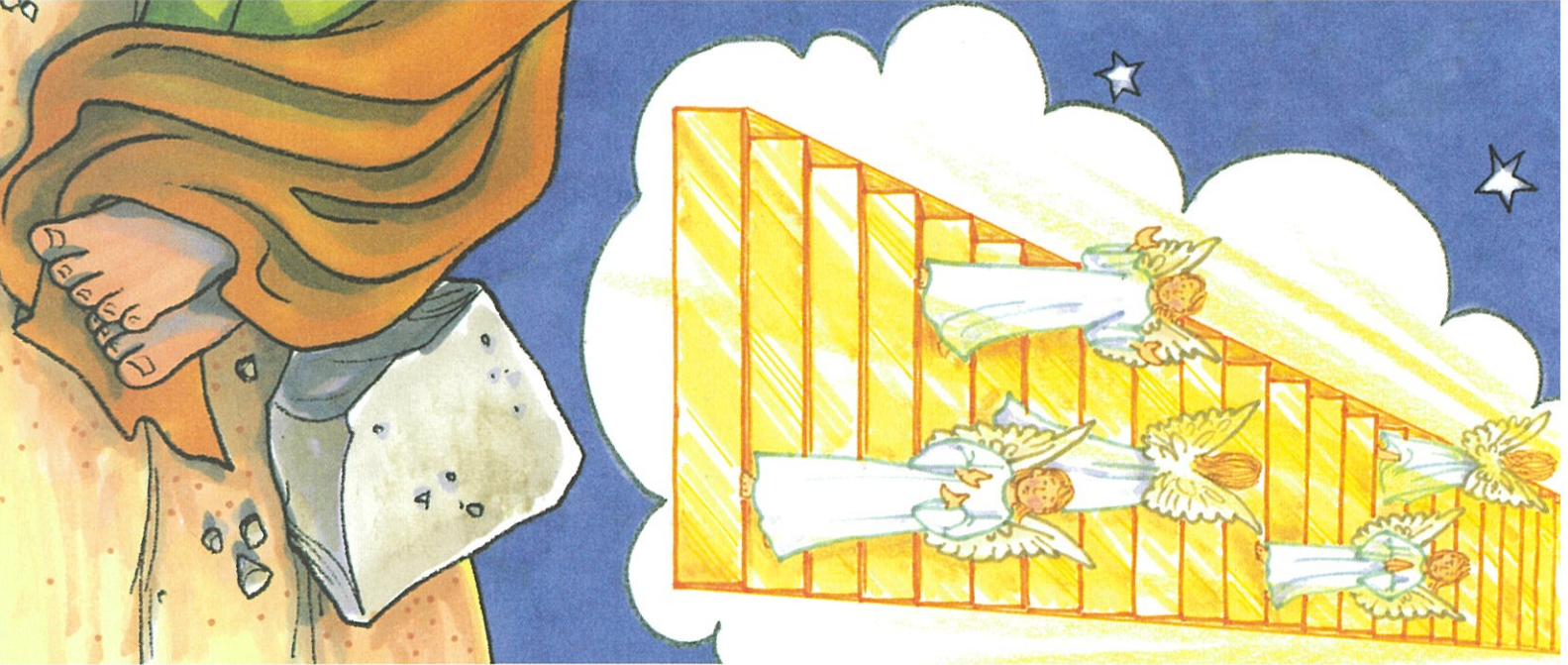
Fold the family letter back so your child can focus on the big picture as you tell the Bible story. At the point in the story indicated by an asterisk (), fold the picture strip forward, overlapping part of the big picture. Talk about what has changed in the picture as you continue the story.*

Think about It

In Genesis 28:15, God said, "I am with you and will keep you wherever you go." You can be certain that God's words to Jacob are also true for you and your family. Psalm 125:2 says "the Lord surrounds His people, from this time forth and forevermore."

Bible Words

God is with you
wherever you go.
Joshua 1:9



Dear Family,

Encourage your child by speaking often of God's constant care and protection. Mention this in the morning when you first get up, thanking God for being there all night and sending His angels to be with you.

Learn more about God's care of Jacob by reading pages 68-73 in *The Story Bible*, available from Concordia Publishing House (CPH).

Close each day by praying with your child. Listen to your child pray. Also, let your child listen to you as you pray for him or her. What a comfort to fall asleep in the peace and love of Jesus. Say a prayer such as:

*Lord, send Your holy angels
To watch my sleeping child.
We thank You that You've blessed us.
With grace on us You've smiled. Amen.*

