

# Jacob Steals Esau's Blessing

## God Has a Plan

Genesis 25:19-26; 27

Bible Point

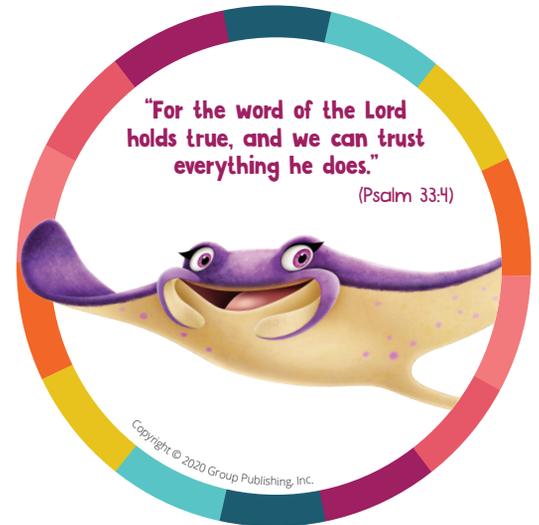
**We can trust God.**

### Purpose

Can you think of a time things seemed to be going all wrong? You thought you were following God, but it wasn't working out the way you thought it would.

Did you try to manipulate or control the situation so it'd turn back in your favor? How did that work out? Or did you trust God and watch things fall into place? In Jacob's case, he and his mom made a big mess by manipulating the situation, yet God's plan still prevailed.

Young children probably don't have a vision of God's plan for them. But they *do* know the difference between waiting and demanding something happen right now. Trusting God to carry out good things for them can offer immense comfort in a world where they have very little control.



### Prayer

God, I know you have perfect plans for me and for each child I'll lead this week. Help me let go of control and let you carry out your plans—certainly you'll do a better job of it than me. I trust you. In Jesus' name, amen.

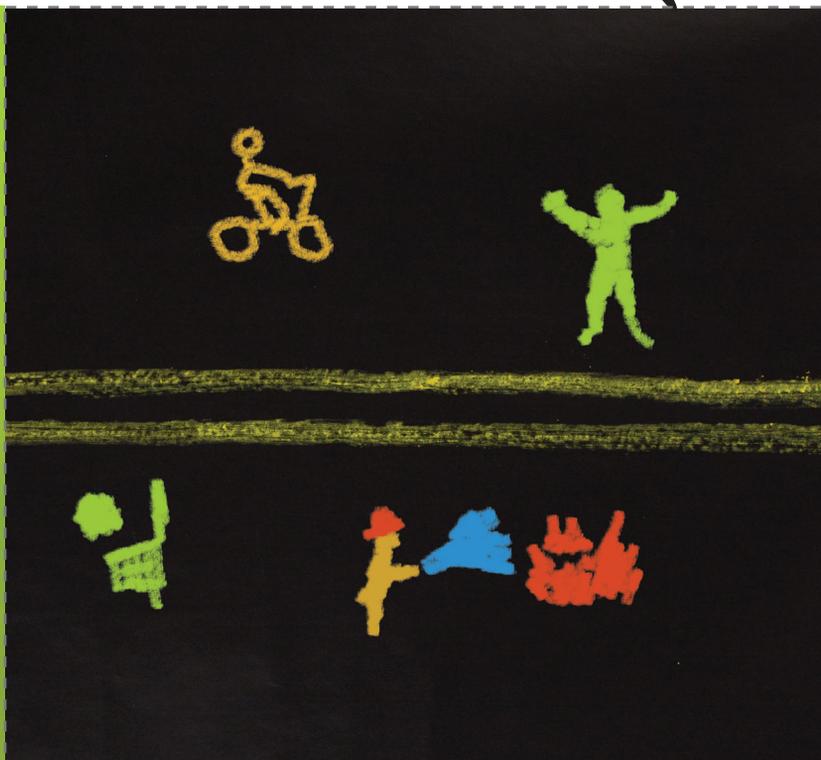
### Prep

Opening Options	Sing & Play	Bible Discovery & Goodbye Circle	Apply-It Options
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Option Cards*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Felt Cover-Up</i>: felt pieces in various colors and sizes</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Chalk Dream Drawings</i>: chalk, dark-colored bulletin board paper</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Music CD</i>*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Buddy Video DVD</i>*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Music Video DVD</i>*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Rae Bible Memory Buddy poster*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> media player</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bible (bookmark Psalm 33:4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> "Jacob Steals Esau's Blessing" Bible Story poster*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Music CD</i>*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Rae Bible Memory Buddy stickers* (1 per child)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> media player</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bible (bookmark Genesis 25:23; 27:6-8, 32-34)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Game</i>: classroom object(s)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Food-n-Friendship</i>: snack, napkins, hand cleanser, <i>Music CD</i>*, media player</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Coloring Creation</i>: "Jacob Steals Esau's Blessing" Coloring Creation pages (1 per child), crayons, glue sticks, wet wipes, brown or tan felt pieces, child-safe scissors, <i>Music CD</i>*, media player</li> </ul>

\* in your *Simply Loved Kit*

# Opening Options

Set up one—or both—of these intro activities to start your time together. Each activity connects kids to the Bible Point and to each other. Cut apart these Option Cards and place one by each activity you choose. Crew Guides will follow the directions and build friendships with kids as they make discoveries together!



## Felt Cover-Up

### Supplies

- felt pieces in various colors and sizes

Place your hands on a table and cover one with felt. Feel the difference between a smooth hand and a “hairy” hand. Choose someone to close eyes, touch a friend’s hands, and try to guess who the person is.

**?** When has someone you know played a trick on someone else?

Jacob tricked his dad by making his hand feel hairy like his brother’s. He thought that was how he could get a blessing. God had a blessing for Jacob, but being sneaky like that wasn’t the way for Jacob to get it. Instead, **we can trust God** with his plans for us.

## Chalk Dream Drawings

### Supplies

- chalk, dark-colored bulletin board paper

Draw lines on the paper to make a road. On the road, use chalk to draw what you want to be when you grow up.

**?** What do you hope to be when you grow up? Tell why.

We might or might not become what we drew today, but God has a plan for us. No matter what, **we can trust God**. We can follow God’s plan like we follow the lines on a road.

# Opening

Now's a great time for Opening Options. Choose one—or both—to introduce today's Bible discoveries.



**"The Cleanup Song"** (*Music CD track 1*)

Help kids transition by cleaning up before sitting with their Connect Crews. A Connect Crew is a smaller group of kids with one Crew Guide.

## Sing & Play

### Welcome

Hello, friends! I'm so glad you're here today. Let's sing our welcome song.



**"Hello, My Friends"** (*Music CD track 2*)

Let's say hello to our Crew Guides. They're our go-to friends who are here to have fun and learn along with us.

- Kids give their Crew Guides a pat on the back.

### Bible Point

Today's Bible Point tells us **we can trust God**. Every time you hear the words **"we can trust God!"** point up to God in heaven and say, "Trust God!" Let's try that together.

Every day, in every way, (*nod yes*)

**We can trust God!** (*"Trust God" and point up*)

Even when we're mad, (*make angry face*)

**We can trust God!** (*"Trust God" and point up*)

Every day, in every way,

**We can trust God!** (*"Trust God" and point up*)

Repeat several times.

### Supplies

- Bible
- *Music CD*
  - "Hello, My Friends"
- *Buddy Video DVD*
  - Rae Bible Memory Buddy video (Week 3)
- *Music Video DVD*
  - "Let's Get a Little Crazy" music video
  - "We Can Trust Him" (Psalm 33:4) music video
- media player
- Rae Bible Memory Buddy poster



Trust God!

Repetition cements learning, so be sure to say today's Bible Point A LOT. Have fun with it! Kids will love listening for it and responding with "Trust God!"

Let's get moving and sing a song!



"Let's Get a Little Crazy" music video

## Bible Memory Buddy & Verse

It's time to talk to our friend Buzzly Bee. Buzzly will introduce us to a Bible Memory Buddy friend. Let's call for Buzzly.



- Flap hands quickly like a bee.
- Make buzzing sounds.



Rae Bible Memory Buddy video (Week 3)

Our friend Rae the giant manta ray reminds us that **we can trust God.** (*Trust God!*)

- Show the Bible Memory Buddy poster.
- Point to Rae's mouth and tell kids that Rae likes to eat tiny plants called zooplankton.
- Have kids pretend they're eating little plants like giant manta rays. Yum!



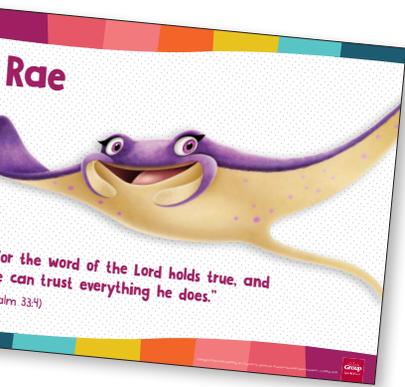
Show the Bible. **The Bible is God's true story of love! Our Bible Memory Verse comes from the Bible. Let's say it together. I'll say a line, and then you repeat after me.**

**"For the word of the Lord** (*cup hands around mouth*)  
**holds true,** (*give thumbs-up*)  
**and we can trust** (*pretend to grab on to something with both hands*)  
**everything he does."** (*spread hands in front of you*)  
(Psalm 33:4)

**We can trust God!** (*Trust God!*) **Let's sing about that!**



"We Can Trust Him" (Psalm 33:4) music video



# Bible Discovery

**We can trust God!** (*Trust God!*) Hold up the Bible. Today our Bible story tells about God's special plan for someone named Jacob. God had plans for Jacob, even before he and his twin brother, Esau, were born! But Jacob couldn't wait and trust God for the plans to come true.

- Get comfy and sit in knee-to-knee circles with Crews.
- **?** Tell about plans you couldn't wait for. Invite Crew Guides to share first.
- Crew Guides give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.

**When God has plans for us, we can be sure they're good! We can trust God!** (*Trust God!*) God told Jacob's mom, Rebekah, his plan. Let's listen to God's plan for Jacob.

 Read aloud Genesis 25:23.

**God planned for Jacob to be a leader over his brother. Wow!**

- March with hands on hips to act like leaders.
- **?** When have you been a leader?
- Invite a few responses from the whole group.

**Jacob leading Esau was surprising! That's because, back then, the oldest sons were usually in charge of the family. Esau was older, so their dad, Isaac, planned to put Esau in charge, not Jacob. Isaac told Esau to hunt for food and make Isaac a special meal. So Esau went out to the open country to look for food. Let's pretend to go out to the country.**

- Step over tall grass.
- Climb up a big rock to get a better view.
- Look into the distance by placing hand against forehead.

**While Esau was out, Jacob and Esau's mom decided to be sneaky. Rebekah knew God planned for Jacob to be the leader over Esau, but she didn't know we can trust God** (*Trust God!*) to make his plans come true.

 Read aloud Genesis 27:6-8.

**Here's what Jacob and Rebekah did.**

- Hunt food around the room; pretend to gather.
- Prepare food; pretend to stir food in a bowl.
- **Isaac was old and couldn't see very well. So they knew they could trick him if Jacob's clothes smelled like Esau.**
- Make motions to "put on" Esau's clothes.

## Supplies

- Bible
- "Jacob Steals Esau's Blessing" Bible Story poster

We call helpers Crew Guides. If you lead a small class, you can be the Crew Guide. Simply gather kids in a cozy circle around you. If you have helpers, form smaller groups so each child can be known—and so kids can befriend your helpers, too!

 Read the verse from the Bible. You're showing kids that God's Word is special. Don't worry—we've kept the verses short for young attention spans.

**When Jacob brought the food to Isaac, Isaac thought Jacob’s voice didn’t sound like Esau’s voice. Let’s listen to our friends’ voices in our Crews.**

- Have Crews sit in knee-to-knee circles.
- In each Crew, choose one child to be the “Guesser,” who will shut his or her eyes.
- Choose another child in the Crew to say, “Trust God!”
- The Guesser listens and guesses who said it.
- Repeat a few times to guess all the Crew members’ voices.

**Since Isaac wasn’t sure about the voice, he asked for a hug. Esau was very hairy, but Jacob wasn’t. Jacob’s mom had thought of that, and she’d put animal skin on Jacob’s hands and neck. When Isaac felt Jacob, he felt the hair and believed Jacob was Esau. Finally, Isaac believed Jacob and gave him a blessing—he made Jacob leader over Esau and the whole family. Show the Bible Story poster.**

**Jacob and his mom were tricky. They thought *they* needed to make God’s plan come true. Let’s find out what happened when Esau came back.**

 Read aloud Genesis 27:32-34.

**Isaac had given the blessing to Jacob and he couldn’t take it back. But even though his brother had tricked him, Esau could still trust God to take care of him. **We can trust God, too.** (*Trust God!*)**

- Have Crews circle up and sit knee to knee.
-  **What’s something you want to trust God for?**
- Invite Crew Guides to share first.

**Jacob and his mom didn’t trust that God would make his plans for Jacob come true. And when they did those sneaky things, it hurt a lot of people. Instead, they could’ve waited for God and trusted his plan. **We can trust God.** (*Trust God!*)**

Now’s a great time for Apply-It Options. Choose one or more that fit your time frame to support today’s Bible discoveries before the closing Goodbye Circle.



# Apply-It Options

Choose one—or all—of these activities to support kids' learning after Bible Discovery.

## Game

**Supplies:** classroom object(s)

Play Hot or Cold by having the class hide a special object as one child stands away, not listening or looking. Kids guide the classmate to the object by saying "hot" or "cold" depending on how close the classmate is getting to the hidden object. Play as time allows. If you have a large class, play in Connect Crews.

**Like we guided our classmates to the hidden object, God guides us to his special plan for us. We can trust God.** (Trust God!)



## Food-n-Friendship

**Supplies:** snack, napkins, hand cleanser, Music CD, media player

- Give a napkin to a friend and say, **"We can trust God."** (Trust God!)

 **"God, You Are So Good"**  
(Music CD track 3)

- Eat snack together.
- **?** When we pray, we talk with Jesus. Who has something we can talk with Jesus about?
- Pray together.

**Jacob didn't trust God, and he made a mess. Let's clean up our mess and remember that we can trust God!** (Trust God!)



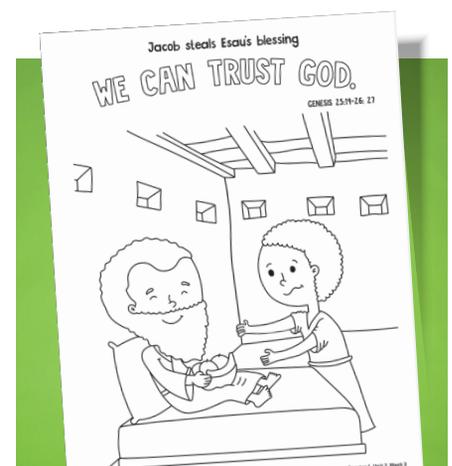
## Coloring Creation

**Supplies:** "Jacob Steals Esau's Blessing" Coloring Creation pages (1 per child), crayons, glue sticks, wet wipes, brown or tan felt pieces, child-safe scissors, Music CD, media player

**We can trust God.** (Trust God!)  
**God still wanted to be friends with Jacob and his mom, even after they did something wrong.**

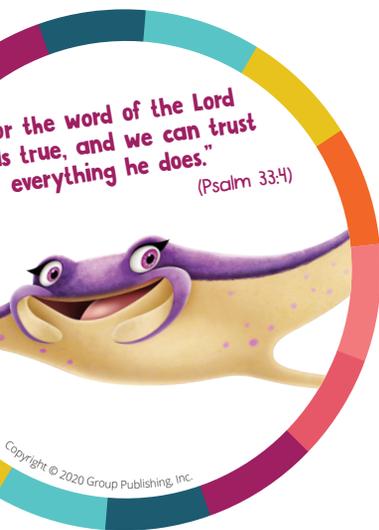
- Review the Bible story as you color the picture.
- Use glue sticks to attach felt pieces to Jacob's arms.
- Play music as kids create.

 **"We Can Trust Him"**  
(Psalm 33:4)  
(Music CD track 6)



## Supplies

- Music CD
  - “Goodbye, My Friends”
  - “We Can Trust Him” (Psalm 33:4)
- media player
- Rae Bible Memory Buddy stickers (1 per child)



Saying each child's name in a loving way helps kids simply experience God's love through you!

# Goodbye Circle

It's almost time to say goodbye! Let's sing our goodbye song as we join hands and make one big circle!

## “Goodbye, My Friends” (Music CD track 4)

God had a special plan for Jacob, and God had a special plan to send his Son, Jesus, to earth. Why? Because he loves us! Now, because of Jesus, **we can trust God** (*Trust God!*) to help us and forgive us when we mess up—even when we mess up like Jacob did. That makes me feel happy and loved. Have kids give friends beside them a hand hug.

God's plan for us is good. **We can trust God.** (*Trust God!*)

- Show the Bible Memory Buddy poster, and remind kids that Rae helps us remember **we can trust God.** (*Trust God!*)
- Invite Crew Guides to give each child a Rae sticker. Have them hug the child and say, “[Child's name], **you can trust God.**” Kids can wear their stickers or take them home.

## “We Can Trust Him” (Psalm 33:4) (Music CD track 6)

- Do Bible Memory Verse motions and move to the music!

