



## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### Fall Asleep

Jacob's Dream

Genesis 28:10-22

(supporting: Genesis 25:19-34; 27)

### TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

Why are plans important?

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can trust that God has a plan.

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**"Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding."**

Proverbs 3:5, NIV

### HOST SUPPLIES

- Four volunteers
- Two blindfolds
- Two beanbags
- One large bucket or trashcan

### STORY SUPPLIES

- Week 3 Timeline Image, printed on cardstock from the LG Assets PDF
- Clothesline and clothespins for the timeline in your room

### 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

**15**  
MIN

#### SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Just for Fun  
Opening Activity

### LARGE GROUP

**35**  
MIN

#### STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener

Worship ("Jesus I Will Trust You" from *This Love*, "How Amazing" from *Everything to Me*, and "You Are Faithful" from *This Love*)

Bible Story (Communicator Script)

Key Question

Prayer

### SMALL GROUP

**25**  
MIN

#### GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot

Bible Story Review: Bible Story Review and Discussion Questions

Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You

Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

### HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Devotional for Kids

Parent Cue App



WEEK  
**THREE**  
SEPTEMBER 2022

LARGE GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Fall Asleep**  
Jacob's Dream  
Genesis 28:10-22  
(supporting: Genesis 25:19-34; 27)

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## MONTHLY VIRTUE

**Trust—Putting your confidence in someone you can depend on**

## BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

## LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS ENTER.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**

## WORSHIP

*Worship Leaders enter*

**WORSHIP LEADER:**

**AUDIO:**

**AUDIO:**

*Host enters . . .*

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30- OR 60-SECOND VERSION)**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME**

## WELCOME

*Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening (Puss in Boots: The Last Wish), a viral video on YouTube, holiday (Collect Rocks Day, Guacamole Day, Rice Krispie Treat Day, International Talk Like a Pirate Day, Miniature Golf Day), etc. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.*

## OPENER

**HOST:** "Hey everybody! It feels like I haven't seen you in so long. How have you BEAN? (Pause for response.) That's really great. Welcoming you here today makes me happier than I've ever BEAN! This morning, I woke up thinking, 'To BEAN or not to BEAN, that is the question!' And today I say BEAN!"



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10 MINUTES

“Okay, okay, you may be wondering why am I saying the word BEAN so much? Well, there is something about late September that screams BEANS to me! When the cooler weather brings the carnival to town, some look forward to the funnel cakes, fried butter sticks, or giant turkey legs. But not me! I say the carnival calls for a heaping bowl of chili. Everyone in here knows you can’t do chili without what key ingredient? *(Pause for response.)* YES! BEANS! Let’s have a show of hands, how many of you agree that BEANS belong in chili? *(Pause for response.)* Right on! “In honor of BEANS, we are going to play a classic carnival game with a [Name of Environment] twist called Blindfolded Beans!

**SLIDE: BLINDFOLDED BEANS TITLE**

“To play this game, I need two volunteers to each bring one trusted friend to the stage. Anybody want to play? *(Pause for response.)*

*Host selects two individuals to play the game. Host directs each volunteer to come to the stage with a friend. Host should introduce them to the rest of the group.*

“Great! Thanks for joining me to play Blindfolded Beans. Each volunteer brought a friend with them to play our game. Each pair will serve as a team. Each team will be given one bean bag. On this stage, you’ll notice a large bucket. The objective is to toss your team’s bean bag into this large bucket! Sounds easy enough, right? If only it were that easy!

“Both of our teams will start in the back of the room! One volunteer will be the designated bean bag thrower. After the initial toss, your team will get to throw the bean bag from wherever it lands. Whoever can get their bean bag into the bucket first, wins!

“However, just like any good carny game, there’s a twist. The person throwing the beans will be BLINDFOLDED! The unblindfolded friend will tell them what direction to toss the beans WITHOUT TOUCHING them! If the unblindfolded friend assists the one throwing in any way other than verbal commands, the pair must start over! Make sense? Any questions? *(Pause for response.)* Great! Let’s get to playin’ Blindfolded Beans!

**AUDIO: UPBEAT GAME MUSIC**

*Host starts by sending all four volunteers to the back of the room. Host helps place blindfolds over the eyes of the two volunteers throwing the bean bags. Host encourages the audience to clear out of the throwing path. Game continues until one of the kids tosses the bean bag into the bucket.*

“Wahoo! NEVER before have I seen bean bags blindly thrown with SUCH precision! This certainly was an incredible display of blind trust. Well done to both of our teams. You’re some pretty awesome human BEANS! Let’s give both our teams a round of applause, but let’s get a little bit rowdy for our Blindfolded Bean Champions! *(Allow rowdy ruckus.)*



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## COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

### INTRODUCTION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Hey, everyone! It is really good to see you this morning dressed nicely with your hair combed and shoes on. Each of you seem ready for [Name of Environment]! This tells me your plans of waking up, getting dressed, grabbing a bite to eat, and heading to church have been achieved! Few things get me excited like a successfully executed plan.

“Every day we accomplish tons of tasks through a plan. For example, if we want to improve our morning breath, what can we do? *(Pause for response.)* Right! We can brush our teeth with toothpaste. If we are hungry, what do we do? *(Pause for response.)* Correct! We grab a massive bowl and fill it to the top with ice cream with a sprinkle of beans! If we want to have some fun, what could you do? *(Pause for response.)* No doubt! We play Blindfolded Beans with our most trusted friends!

“But sometimes the plans go a little sideways and we have unexpected results. For example, after you set up your tent and campsite, you experience a sudden thunderstorm. You plan on attending your pal’s birthday party by getting dressed and wrapping the present, but your mom’s car won’t start. You wear a pair of new shoes only to step outside for one of the rainiest, muddiest days of the year.

“Let’s take a couple minutes to circle up in our Small Groups. Share a time you made a plan, but the plan didn’t turn out as expected.”

*Communicator allows a few minutes for Small Groups to share with each other times their plans changed. Communicator asks for a couple of Small Group examples to be shared with the whole group.*

### TENSION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Those are great examples. Thanks for sharing. We all know having a plan is important. It allows us to prepare and achieve our desired outcomes. But as you’ve already discussed, the plans can change unexpectedly.

“When nothing is going our way, do we try to fix it ourselves? Do we find a warm blanket and curl up and cry? Or do we still trust God? CAN we still trust God when we’re not satisfied with life?

“These questions are totally fair to ponder and think about! Each of us will have plans that go awry, and some of those will be significant moments with lasting impacts. I’m really glad you’re here today because we get to discover a story captured for us in the Bible that is huge reminder of how to respond in situations like this.”

### TRUTH

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Before this story took place, God’s good world was forever changed when sin entered the world. As people turned from God, Abraham’s family was chosen by God to bless the whole world. Even though Abraham and his wife, Sarah, were really old, God blessed them with a son named Isaac. Isaac grew up, married Rebekah, and had kids of his own—twin boys named Jacob and Esau.



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**SLIDE: STORY SLIDE #1**

“Like many siblings, the two brothers did not get along—right from the start! When Esau was born, Jacob was holding onto his heel! In many ways, the two were opposites. Esau, who was the oldest, was born as hairy as a garment and loved hunting in the great outdoors. Jacob, on the other hand, enjoyed cooking and being indoors.

“Because Esau was the first born, he was to receive a special birthright. This included a double portion of the family’s inheritance along with the honor of leading the family in the future. One day, Esau came home starved and requested some of Jacob’s homemade red stew.

**SLIDE: STORY SLIDE #2**

“Jacob insisted Esau pay a steep price for a bowl of stew. The food would cost Esau his birthright. Esau gave in. He sold his birthright to Jacob for some bread and fresh red lentil stew.

“Even though parents aren’t supposed to have favorite kids, Jacob was Rebekah’s favorite. She helped him receive a special blessing from Isaac that was supposed to go to Esau. Isaac was aging and had poor vision. Isaac asked Esau to hunt some wild game and prepare the meat for him in anticipation of the coming blessing. While Esau was out hunting, Rebekah instructed Jacob to bring her two of the best goats in their flock. She prepared the meat just like Isaac loved.

**SLIDE: STORY SLIDE #3**

“Wearing Esau’s clothing and goat skin to give the appearance of hairy arms, Jacob approached his father with bread and tasty food. The trick worked. Jacob fooled his father and received the blessing intended for Esau.

**SLIDE: STORY SLIDE #4**

“When Esau found out about the stolen blessing, he was really, really mad! So mad, Esau planned to kill Jacob once their father was gone. When Rebekah caught wind of Esau’s plot, she sent Jacob hundreds of miles away to family in a town called Haran.

**SLIDE: STORY SLIDE #5**

“On his journey, Jacob stopped for the night. Without a tent, bed, or even a pillow, he settled down to get some sleep, but check this out.”

*Open the Bible to Genesis 28:11 (NIV) and read.*

*“He reached a certain place and stopped for the night. The sun had already set. He took one of the stones there and placed it under his head. Then he lay down to sleep.”*

“He used a rock as a pillow! This sounds uncomfortable! But Jacob managed to fall asleep and ended up getting a vision from God.

**SLIDE: STORY SLIDE #6**





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"In his vision, Jacob saw a staircase stretching from earth to heaven with God's angels moving up and down it. Somehow God was standing next to the staircase. God, once again, promised to bless the whole world through Jacob's family. God said,"

*Open the Bible to Genesis 28:13b-14a (NirV) and read.*

*"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."*

"God promised Jacob's family would grow in number and own the very land Jacob slept on.

"God continued to speak and said,"

*Open the Bible to Genesis 26:14b-15 (NirV) and read.*

*"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."*

**SLIDE: STORY SLIDE #7**

"When Jacob woke the next morning, he took the stone he used as a pillow and set it up as an altar for God. Then Jacob moved forward with confidence knowing God was with him!"

## APPLICATION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Wow. That was a lot. This story was dramatic with all sorts of twists and turns. Let's do a little recap. First, because he was the second born, Jacob was not entitled to the birthright, but He found a way to obtain it with a bowl of beans known as red lentil soup. The blessing from Isaac was intended for Esau, but Jacob received it with goat skin and good meat. Because of Jacob's deceit, his plans unexpectedly changed and he was forced to run for his life! But while he was fleeing, Jacob received an incredible reminder that God was still with him!"

**SLIDE: GOD'S BIG STORY TIMELINE**

**SLIDE: WEEK 3 TIMELINE IMAGE**

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

"Plus, God promised Abraham He would bless the world through his family. Through Jacob's vision, we can see God's plan to fulfill this promise through Jacob.

"And do you know what? That's exactly what happened. Hundreds of years later, Jesus was born into Jacob's family line. Jesus was the One God promised who would offer salvation to all!"

"Isn't that incredible? Jacob was not even close to being perfect, yet God used him as one of the foundational parts of the plan! God has an ultimate plan to make things right in this world. We don't know all the details, but we can trust the One who does! We get to join what God is doing to help change the world!"



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“So many times in life it’s hard to see the path ahead. When we face uncertainty or anxiety, it can be hard to know where to turn or who to trust. This story is a reminder for me that I can trust that God has a plan! When you’re in the middle of a massive fight with your friends, trust God has a plan and lean on God’s wisdom found in the Bible. When you fail to get chosen as team captain, trust God has a plan and support those who were chosen. If your parents are arguing again, trust God has a plan and call for God’s help!”

### LANDING

**COMMUNICATOR:** “God is in control. We don’t always get to know the details of God’s plan, but we do know God promises to make everything right in the end. As we prepare for Small Groups, think about this one question.

#### SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

**“Why are plans important?”** This might feel like a simple question, but think about why we put so much work into planning what needs to be done. How can we trust that God’s plan is bigger than anything we could even imagine for ourselves? You’ll talk more about this in Small Group. Before we head out, let’s pray and ask God for help. Let’s thank God for always being so trustworthy! Let’s pray.”

*Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.*

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS EXIT.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**