

Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why do you think Jacob refused to let go of God?
- On whom did Jacob's future depend? Who is in control of our future?
- How are we changed when we trust in Jesus?

Jacob's New Name

Genesis 32-33

STORY POINT: GOD CHANGED JACOB'S NAME TO ISRAEL, THE NAME OF GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE.

Jacob took his family and all his possessions and headed home to Canaan. Jacob was afraid that Esau would still be angry with him for stealing his blessing.

Jacob made a plan. He divided his family into two groups. If Esau attacked one group, maybe the other group could escape.

Then Jacob asked God to keep His promise. Jacob prayed, "Please rescue me from my brother Esau." Jacob sent a large gift of animals to try to make Esau happy. That night, a man appeared. (The man was actually God Himself!) The man wrestled with Jacob all night. Jacob refused to give up, so the man injured Jacob's hip.

But Jacob would not let Him go. "I will not let You go unless You bless me," Jacob said.

"Your name will no longer be Jacob," said the man. "Your name will be Israel because you wrestled with God and men, and you have won." The man blessed Jacob. Now Jacob went to meet Esau. Esau ran to Jacob and hugged him. He was not angry anymore.

Esau returned home. Jacob and his family traveled on, and Jacob bought land for them to live on. He was finally home in the land God had promised him.



Christ Connection: God changed Jacob's life and gave him a new name, Israel. Jesus came so that we might have a changed life, forgiven of sin. (2 Corinthians 5:17) Jesus' death and resurrection provided sinful people the way to be adopted into God's family. When we are adopted into the family of God we also receive a new name—children of God. (John 1:12)

Find the Brothers

INSTRUCTIONS: Use the key to find and circle Jacob and Esau.



Preschool Activity Pages

Unit 3 • Session 3 Jacob's New Name

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Jacob was afraid to see his brother, Esau, after stealing his blessing.
- Jacob wrestled with God all night.
- God changed Jacob's name to Israel.
- Esau forgave Jacob.

KEY PASSAGE: Genesis 28:15a

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- Does God keep His promises? God always keeps His promises.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- Would you be afraid to meet Esau if you were Jacob?
- Would you forgive Jacob if you were Esau?
- Was Jacob stronger than God? How do we know he was not?
- What does God call us when He adopts us into His family?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Remind children of the Bible story as you discipline sibling disputes this week.
- Host a family thumb wrestling tournament.
- Look online to find the meaning of each family member's name.



DOWNLOAD the
LIFEWAY KIDS APP

What's In a Name?

INSTRUCTIONS: Use the letters in *Jacob* and *Israel* to form as many new words as you can.

JACOB
ISRAEL

Real, Core

Younger Kids Activity Pages
Unit 3 • Session 3
Jacob's New Name

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Jacob planned to return to Canaan, but feared that Esau would still be angry.
- Jacob prayed to God for help, but also made a plan to protect his family.
- In the night, Jacob wrestled with God.
- God changed Jacob's name to Israel, the name of God's covenant people.

KEY PASSAGE: Genesis 28:15

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- Does God keep His promises? God always keeps His promises because He is faithful.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- Why did Jacob wrestle with God?
- Do you ever “wrestle with God”?
- Who can change our lives and give us new identities in God?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Use a baby names book to talk to your kids about what their names mean. Discuss why you chose the names you gave them and the ways Jesus changes us when we put our faith in Him.



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STORY POINT: GOD CHANGED JACOB'S NAME TO ISRAEL.

DOWNTOWN ZOO QUESTIONS

After watching our video and reading the provided Bible passage go through these questions as a family. These are great questions to discuss as a family. Don't just have your child answer, answer them together and discuss the lesson.

1. Why was Jacob afraid to see his brother Esau?
2. Why did Jacob tell part of his family to go one way and the other part to go another?
3. Whom did Jacob wrestle with all night?
4. What did God change Jacob's name to?
5. Was Esau happy or angry to see Jacob?

UPTOWN KIDS QUESTIONS (LIGHTHOUSE & THRIVE)

1. Why was Jacob afraid about going back to Canaan?
2. Who did Jacob wrestle with?
3. Was Esau still angry with Jacob?
4. Who did Jacob trust when he faced a situation he feared? Who can we trust when we are afraid?
5. What are ways that God blesses people? What are some ways God has blessed you?
6. God changed Jacob's name to Israel; what are ways we are changed by God when we trust Jesus?