

SESSION TITLE: Jacob's New Name

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 32–33

KEY PASSAGE: Genesis 28:15a

STORY POINT: God keeps His promises.

CHRIST CONNECTION: When we trust in Jesus, God calls us His children.

Transition activity: Make name tags

Write each toddler's name in bold print on a piece of colorful paper. Provide stickers for toddlers to decorate their paper. Write the Christ Connection beneath each child's name. Tape yarn to each of the top corners to make a name tag, making sure the yarn is long enough to prevent a choking hazard.

SAY: GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES no matter what. God had promised to be with Jacob when he ran away from Esau and when God told Jacob to go home. God gave Jacob a new name: Israel. When we trust in Jesus, God calls us His children.

Follow a path

Use colorful masking tape to tape a path around the room for toddlers to walk along. Include zigzag steps, looping steps, and so forth. Talk about the Bible story.

SAY: God told Jacob to go home. Jacob went, even though he was worried about seeing Esau again. God gave Jacob a new name: Israel. When we trust in Jesus, God calls us His children. **GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES.**

Build with blocks

Provide blocks or interlocking bricks for toddlers to build a pen to hold vinyl sheep and cattle figures. Invite toddlers to play out the story. Read the key passage card.

SAY: God promised to be with Jacob. **GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES.** God gave Jacob a big family and riches. Later God sent Jesus through the people of Israel.

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church's security procedures. Give parents today's big picture card to reinforce today's Bible story, story point, or gospel gems throughout the week.