Dear Children's Church small group leaders,

Thank you for serving the children in Children's Church!!! You will join the children in Grace Park (the large area in the children's building) for worship and the Bible lesson. It will be your responsibility to shepherd them and, if needed, provide redirection during this time so that the leader leading worship or the Bible lesson can focus on leading and engaging the group. Below you will find a schedule for each age group and information about how to use the curriculum for small group time.

Schedule:

11:05ish	Kids dismissed from service	11:30	Small Group time in classrooms
11:05ish	Worship in Grace Park	12ish	Parent Pickup
11:10ish	Bible Lesson in Grace Park		

Using the Curriculum:
We will be utilizing the same curriculum (and hence, Bible passage) for Grace Groups and Children's Church. It's our prayer that this double exposure to the same Bible passage in different ways and by different teachers will allow children to know God's Word better; provide them with the time they need to process its meaning, significance and application for their lives through meaningful interaction and engaging activities; and leave them with a clear takeaway from Sunday morning's ministries.

You'll find the small group curriculum and resources for the Sunday that you're serving in this pdf. A copy of this curriculum and supplies that you request will be provided in your small group bin. This is located on the shelf above the microwave in the children's resource room and is labeled by small group.

NOTE: Please select the activities that you'll need for your group by the Wednesday before you serve. Please contact Jacob (for K-2nd grade classes) or Alicia (for PreK class) no later than 9:00am on Wednesday before you serve to request activities and/or supplies that you'll utilize for your small group time. Please include which memory verse game and lesson review game you'd like to do. The supplies will then be placed in your basket for you to use the coming Sunday.

Elements that should be used in Children's Church Small Group Time:

- ***A hands-on activity or two (e.g., game, craft, coloring page) that are found in this document***: At your request, supplies for the hands-on activity/ies will be gathered for you and placed in the small group bin. You may need to do some minimal, final prep on Sunday before children's church begins
- ***Memory Verse Game****: Instead of using this curriculum's memory verse, please use the small group's Awana verse(s) for the coming week.
- ***Lesson Review Game****: Kids may have already did this in their Grace Group, but you're welcome to do this again in children's church. The reason is that you may choose a different game than they did during Grace Group and/or each child will most likely be answering different questions than they did in Grace Groups. In order to get to the other elements of small group time, you may want to shorten the game by asking fewer questions.
- ***Prayer***: Please pray with your class.

*Lesson Review Games and Memory Verse Games options are found in the appendix located both with the curriculum in the bin for your small group. It's also found at graceplacechurch.org/servekids. Simply click on the button "Memory Verse and Lesson Review Games." If you have another game in mind, you're welcome to use it instead. The Review Questions and hands-on activity/ies that you have selected will be ready for you to use with your small group are found before the appendix in this document.
**Awana verses are found in this pdf and are organized by grade & date.

IMPORTANT: Please prepare in advance!

- Please read the passage (found on the first page of the lesson) and Prepare to Share!
- For all items that you'll need (copies, coloring pages, game supplies, etc…), please inform Jacob (for K-2nd grade classes) or Alicia (for PreK class) of supplies you need by 9 am of Wednesday prior to serving.

Thank you again for serving!

Should you need anything or have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to us!
Jacob (405)973-6982
Alicia (808) 386-7067

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Genesis 28:10-30:24



Jacob's Family Grows

Jacob marries Leah and Rachel and has many children.

Lesson Focus

Isaac and Rebekah sent Jacob to Rebekah's brother Laban to find a wife. Laban tricked Jacob by giving him Leah to marry first, but Jacob worked another seven years to marry Rachel, too. God blessed Jacob with many children.

Key Passages

Genesis 28:12, 29:22–23

Memory Verse

Proverbs 3:5–6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

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Prepare to Share

Scriptural Background

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the key passages for this lesson along with this background.

After Jacob's deceit enabled him to steal Isaac's blessing, Esau threatened to kill him. Rebekah wanted Jacob to flee to her brother Laban for safety and to find a wife. On Jacob's journey, God appeared to him in a dream. Jacob saw a ladder stretching from earth to heaven with angels ascending and descending on it and the Lord at the top. God gave Abraham's promises to Jacob: his offspring would be given the land of Canaan, they would be as numerous as the dust, and a special descendant (Jesus) would bless all the families of the earth (Genesis 28:13–15). Jacob was afraid after his vision of God, and he named that place *Bethel*, which means "house of God." He vowed to follow God and give a tithe if God would provide for him, be with him on his journey, and bring him safely back home (Genesis 28:20–22).

Jacob continued his journey to Haran, the area of Abraham's relatives and the region where Abraham's servant had traveled to find Rebekah as a wife for Isaac. Haran was located in what is now modern-day Turkey. Genesis 29 begins with Jacob stopping at a well to inquire from the local shepherds. They were from Haran and knew his uncle Laban and cousin Rachel, who happened to be coming to the well to water the flock. Removing the stone from the well was usually accomplished by several people (Genesis 29:8), but Jacob rolled the stone away himself and watered Laban's flock for Rachel. Overcome with emotion, Jacob greeted Rachel and told her his relationship to her father Laban. Rachel immediately reported his arrival to Laban, and Laban ran to the well to greet him. Laban welcomed Jacob into his home. God led Jacob to his mother's relatives just like he'd guided Abraham's servant to Abraham's relatives.

After Jacob had worked a month, his uncle asked him what his wages should be. Laban had two daughters: the younger Rachel was beautiful while the older Leah had "weak" eyes. Weak eyes may refer to bleary eyes, possibly caused by an eye condition, or it may simply mean that her eyes lacked the vibrant sparkle that was valued in her culture. Jacob loved Rachel, so he offered to work seven years to marry her. This arrangement was likely necessary because Jacob had no gifts or money to offer Laban as a dowry like Abraham's servant gave to Rebekah and her family (Genesis 24:53). Laban agreed, and Jacob began his work, which flew by because of his love for Rachel. However, at the wedding, Laban gave Leah, instead of Rachel, to Jacob. In the morning when Jacob realized the switch, he demanded an explanation from Laban. Laban offered an excuse about the older daughter marrying before the younger in his country. To compensate, he offered Rachel as a bride if Jacob would wait one week to marry her and agree to work another seven years. Laban's deceit, an obvious ploy to keep Jacob's services, is reminiscent of Jacob's deceiving of his father Isaac, when he had pretended to be Esau to steal the blessing. Jacob married Rachel one week after Leah and began another seven years of service to Laban (Genesis 29:26–30).

Jacob loved Rachel, but God blessed Leah with four sons, which made her sister jealous. Just as Sarah had given Hagar to Abraham, Rachel gave her servant Bilhah to Jacob to bear children. Leah followed suit with her servant Zilpah, and both servants bore two sons for Jacob. Leah bore another two sons and a daughter before God intervened on Rachel's behalf and opened her womb. Her son Joseph was the last child born while Jacob lived with Laban. Rachel's second son Benjamin was not born until they had returned to Canaan where she died in childbirth. Amid the turmoil of competing wives, Jacob was blessed with 12 sons who would become the tribes of Israel.

Historical/Apologetics Background

One question that arises from the life of Jacob is his polygamous marriage to sisters. It was Laban's idea for Jacob to marry Rachel as well as Leah (Genesis 29:27), but Jacob agreed. So, what does the Bible teach about polygamy?

First, God created Adam and Eve to be one flesh (Genesis 2:24), which established his plan for marriage to be one man and one woman for life. The first polygamous marriage recorded in Scripture is Lamech, who had two wives (Genesis 4:19). Second,

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the Bible, as a true history book, includes the failings as well as the victories of both sinful and godly men. Just because polygamous marriages are recorded does not mean that they are condoned. Instead, polygamous relationships in the Bible are almost always associated with resulting negative consequences. In Abraham's life, Sarah and Hagar experienced conflict and bitterness. When King David and King Solomon disobeyed God's command for kings not to take multiple wives (Deuteronomy 17:17), David's family was plagued by rebellion among his sons, and Solomon's wives turned his heart away from the Lord. These examples serve as a warning rather than an ideal for marriage to more than one woman.

In Jacob's case, the whole situation was marked with conflict. Laban's treatment of his daughters led to bitterness against him as they felt like he had sold them (Genesis 31:14–15). Then there was the fierce rivalry between the two sisters: Leah striving for Jacob's love and Rachel striving for children. Genesis 30:1–2 says, "When Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, she envied her sister. She said to Jacob, 'Give me children, or I shall die!' Jacob's anger was kindled against Rachel, and he said, 'Am I in the place of God, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?'" Rather than waiting on the Lord, Rachel chose to give her servant Bilhah to Jacob to bear children. Leah reacted by giving her servant Zilpah to Jacob. This elevated the servants to concubine status although their sons were counted as Rachel's and Leah's, since they named them. The competition for sons even led to Leah's telling Jacob that he must lie with her because she had "hired" him with her son's mandrakes (Genesis 30:16). This favoritism and jealousy between Jacob and his wives eventually extended to their children, resulting in Joseph's slavery in Egypt.

While God's ideal is monogamy, no direct command against polygamy had been given by Jacob's time. The culture was very different: women relied on men for protection and provision, and children were highly valued. Later, God did command the Israelites not to marry sisters while both were alive (Leviticus 18:18), and several New Testament passages specify that men should have one wife (1 Timothy 3:2, 3:12; Titus 1:6; Ephesians 5:23). Jesus also confirmed that God's design for marriage is one man and one woman when he quoted from Genesis in Mark 10:5–9. By examining the whole of Scripture, it is clear that although Jacob faced the consequences of his family's jealousy and bitterness to the point of losing his favorite son Joseph, God still blessed Jacob in spite of his less-than-ideal marriages.

Memory Verses For Children's Church (Oct 2026 - Dec 2026)
*Verses are in ESV Translation

Date	3's-PreK	Kindergarten	1st Grade	2nd Grade
Oct 18	Jeremiah 10:10 **The LORD is the true God**; He is the living God and the everlasting King. *(Short version is in bold.)*	Psalm 118:1 Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good…	Jeremiah 32:27 Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh. Is anything too hard for Me?	John 1:1-3 In the beginning was the Word [Jesus Christ], and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He [Jesus Christ] was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made.
Oct 25	Psalm 31:14 **But I trust in You, O LORD**; I say, "You are my God. *(Short version is in bold.)*	1 John 4:19 We love because He first loved us.	Proverbs 20:11 Even a child makes himself known by his acts, by whether his conduct is pure and upright.	Isaiah 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Nov 1	Matthew 4:10 **Worship the Lord your God** and Him only shall you serve. *(Short version is in bold.)*	Genesis 1:1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.	Psalm 23:1-3 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.	Deuteronomy 31:8 It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; He will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.
Nov 8	John 10:27 **My sheep hear My voice, and I know them,** and they follow Me. *(Short version is in bold.)*	Genesis 1:31 And God everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good…	Psalm 23:4-5 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.	Psalm 100:4 Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name!
Nov 15	Psalm 100:4 **Enter His gates with thanksgiving**, and his courts with praise… *(Short version is in bold.)*	Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.	Psalm 23:6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.	Matthew 19:14 But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."
Nov 22	Psalm 100:4 **Enter His gates with thanksgiving**, and his courts with praise… *(Short version is in bold.)*	Genesis 1:1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.	Psalm 23 *For today's memory verse, select one of the above three sections from Psalm 23.*	Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.
Nov 29	Isaiah 53:6 **All we like sheep have gone astray**; we have turned — every one — to his own way. *(Short version is in bold.)*	John 17:17 Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.	Psalm 23 *For today's memory verse, select one of the above three sections from Psalm 23.*	Isaiah 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Dec 6	Psalm 23:4 … **I will fear no evil, for You are with me**; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.	1 Peter 1:25 But the word of the Lord remains forever…	Mark 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation."	1 John 4:15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

	(Short version is in bold.)			
Dec 13	Luke 1:49 "**For He** who is mighty **has done great things for me**, and holy is His name. *(Short version is in bold.)*	John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through Me."	1 Peter 1:25 But the word of the Lord remains forever…	Romans 5:8 But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
Dec 20	Luke 1:49 "**For He** who is mighty **has done great things for me**, and holy is His name. *(Short version is in bold.)*	John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through Me."	1 Peter 1:25 But the word of the Lord remains forever…	Romans 5:8 But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

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Review Questions

K–1st Review Questions

1. Why did Jacob go to his uncle's home? *To get away from Esau, who was angry with him.*
2. What did Jacob dream about on his journey? *A ladder to heaven with angels moving up and down.*
3. Who spoke to Jacob in his dream? *God.*
4. Did God give Jacob the same promise as Abraham and Isaac or was it a different promise? *The same promise.*
5. What was the name of Jacob's uncle? *Laban.*
6. Who were Laban's daughters? What were their names? *Leah and Rachel.*
7. Which daughter did Jacob love? *Rachel.*
8. What did Jacob do while he lived with Laban's family? *Worked for Laban. Took care of his flocks.*
9. How many years did Jacob say he would work so he could marry Rachel? *Seven.*
10. How did Laban trick Jacob? *He switched Rachel and Leah at the wedding.*
11. Which daughter did Laban give to Jacob at the wedding feast? *Leah.*
12. How many more years did Jacob have to work for Rachel? *Seven more.*
13. Even though Jacob was tricked by Laban, God still kept his promises. God is sovereign. What does that mean? *God is in control of everything.*
14. How many sons did Jacob have? *12.*
15. What does our memory verse say we should not lean on? *Our own understanding.*
16. Who does our memory verse say we should trust in? *The Lord.*

Pre-K Review Questions

1. Where did Jacob go to get away from Esau, who was angry with him? *His uncle's home.*
2. What did Jacob dream about on his journey? *A ladder to heaven with angels moving up and down.*
3. Who gave Jacob a promise in his dream? *God.*
4. Did God give Jacob the same promise as Abraham and Isaac or was it a different promise? *The same promise.*
5. What was the name of Jacob's uncle? *Laban.*
6. Which daughter did Jacob love: Leah or Rachel? *Rachel.*
7. What did Jacob do while he lived with Laban's family? Who did he work for? *Laban.*
8. How did Laban trick Jacob? *He switched Rachel and Leah at the wedding.*
9. Which daughter did Laban give to Jacob at the wedding feast, Leah or Rachel? *Leah.*
10. What did Jacob have to do so he could marry Rachel? *Work longer—seven more years.*
11. Was it right or wrong for Laban to trick Jacob? *Wrong.*
12. How many sons did Jacob have? *12.*
13. What does our memory verse say we should not lean on? *Our own understanding.*
14. Who does our memory verse say we should trust in? *The Lord.*

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Twelve Sons Bookmark

Materials

- ☐ Bookmark sheets (following page)
- ☐ Colored pencils or markers
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Glue sticks or tape



Instructions

Print and cut out both bookmark sheets for each student. Or have students do the cutting.

Have students color the pictures. Use glue or tape to attach the "Glue" tab (next to the Naphtali panel) to the back of the Gad panel to connect all 12 pictures.

Fold the bookmark back and forth (paper fan/accordian style) on the thin folding lines. Gently pull the end tabs to unfold and see all the pictures and refold it to use as a bookmark.

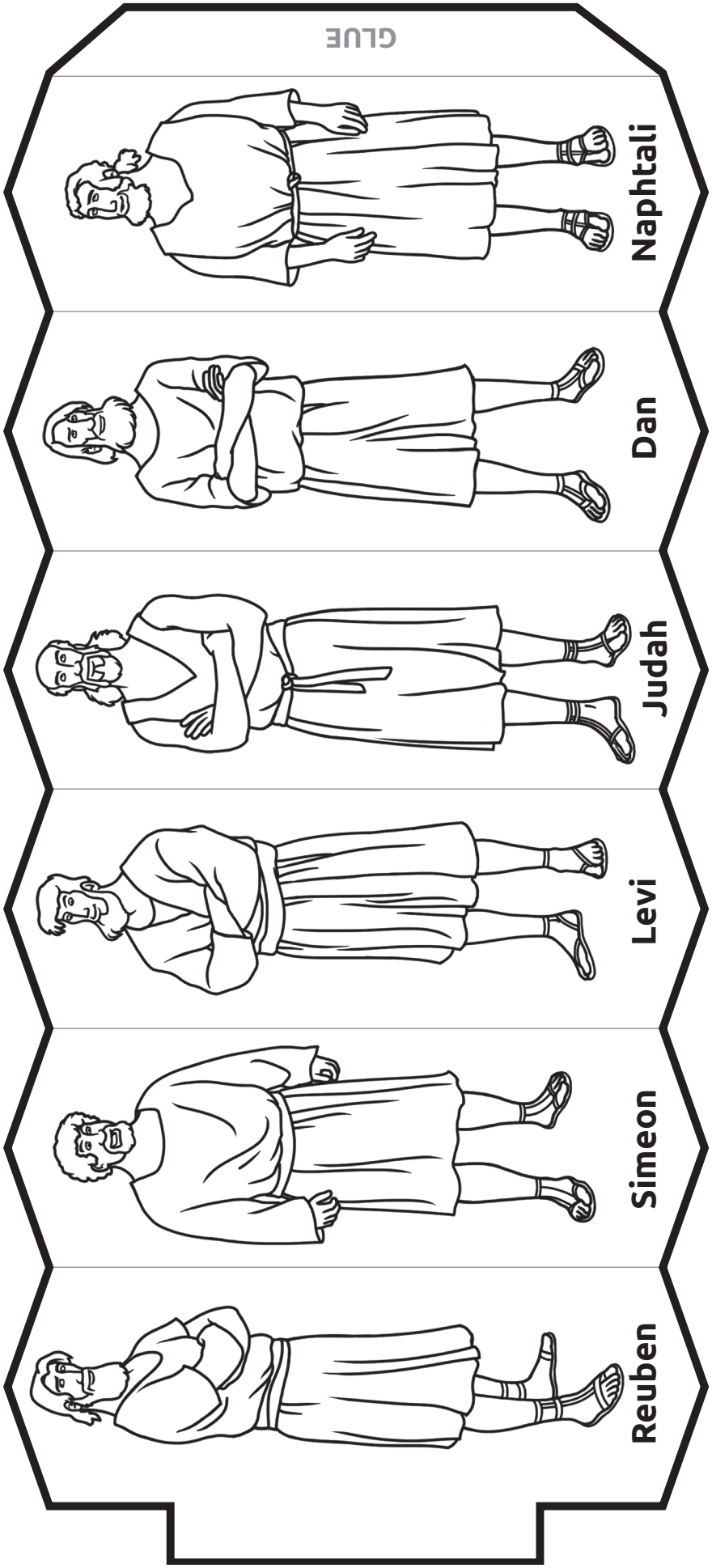
Suggested Discussion

God blessed Jacob with twelve sons and promised that they would have many descendants. One of those descendants would be Jesus.

We'll learn more about the twelve sons of Jacob as their families grow and become the twelve tribes of Israel.

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Template 1: Cut on thick line. Fold on the thin lines. Apply glue or tape to the tab marked "GLUE."

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Template 2: Cut on thick line. Fold on the thin lines. Line up Gad on the fold line next to Naphtali (Template 1) and attach the glue tab to the back.

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