

WEEK 3

LESSON GUIDE

Staycation!

BIG IDEA

We can trust God when it's hard to trust each other.

BIBLE

Jacob and Esau:
Genesis 25:19-34

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Worship in the House!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can lead kids in worship with any songs of your choice, but here are some suggestions that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)
 - "All The Things" (Yancy & Little Praise Party)
 - "A Great Big House of Friends" (VeggieTales)
 - "God's Family" (Life Kids)
 - "Father Abraham" (CJ & Friends)
 - "We Are Family" (KidSpring Children's Ministry)

ACTIVITY | Dance Duet

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each pair of kids a hula hoop. Have each kid hold the hula hoop with one hand, with the hula hoop between them. Give kids dance instructions and remind them to keep holding onto their side of the hula hoop. Demonstrate the moves as you call them out to the kids.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Give toddlers [pool rings](#) to use instead of hula hoops.
- Hold on tight to your hula hoop and dance like me!
- Dance with a wiggle. Now dance down low. Dance holding the hula hoop high. Now twirl around.
- It was tricky trying to hold the hula hoop and dance at the same time, but you two make a great dance duet!
- You worked together and had fun because you trusted each other.

ACTIVITY | Family Recipe

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each group of 3-4 kids a bucket filled with random play food. Give each group the same items. Set up a large pot and a wooden spoon in the front and as you call out the ingredients, have the groups work together to find the items and bring them to you.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Put a large pot or bucket in the middle of a circle of toddlers. Provide them with an assortment of play food items and a large wooden spoon. Allow them to add whatever ingredients they'd like and have them take turns stirring the spot. Encourage their imaginary

play skills by asking them questions like, "What is this soup called?" and "Mm, what does this smell like?"

- Today we are going to make a family recipe and I need your help. See how quickly you can find these items.
 - Let's see, I need . . . something green.
 - Now I need some tomatoes.
 - Do you know what would really make this soup delicious? Carrots!
- [Continue to name several food items until most of the food has been used.]

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | Genesis 25:19-34 (Jacob and Esau)

- Hey everyone! I love Staycation! story time, don't you? Today, we are going to learn more about Abraham and his family.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set up for the Bible story as though it's a slumber party! Wear pajamas (have kids come in PJs, too!), have kids sit on the floor with blankets, cushions, and pillows.
- Last week, we learned about Abraham and his son, Isaac. When Isaac was all grown up, he and his wife had twin baby boys.
 - Their names were Jacob and Esau.
 - Esau was the older brother, who loved being outside. **Do any of you love playing outside?**
 - Jacob was the younger brother, and he liked staying home.
- One day, Esau came back to the tents after hunting all day and he was so hungry. Jacob was stirring a great big pot of soup. Yum! It smelled so good!
 - Esau asked his brother for some of the soup, but it wasn't for free.
 - Jacob said he would give Esau the soup if Esau stopped being the older brother. He would have to say Jacob was the older brother now.
- Esau was so hungry that he went along with Jacob's idea, but Esau forgot that it was tradition for the older brother to receive more things from their father before he died. This was called a birthright.
- Because Esau gave up being the older child, now all of those things would go to Jacob. Jacob had tricked him and that made Esau very angry.
- Esau and Jacob did not get along right now, and that was because they no longer trusted each other. But they knew that they could always count on God, even when other people let them down sometimes.

BIG IDEA | We can trust God when it's hard to trust each other.

- The longer we are on *Staycation!*, this junk drawer keeps getting messier and messier! Once again, I have lost the Big Idea. **Can you help me find it?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare an empty "drawer" filled with odds and ends, like scraps of paper, rolls of tape, keys, pens, spoons — nothing sharp or pointy! Write one word of the Big Idea on a few of these items. Invite kids to rummage through the drawer with you to find all the words of the Big Idea. Once all the words are found, put the words in order and say the Big Idea aloud for the kids, then have them repeat the words after you along with the hand motions.
- Today's Big Idea is . . .
 - **We can** (Point to self with both thumbs.)
 - **Trust God** (Point upward.)
 - **When it's hard** (Point thumbs downward.)
 - **To trust each other** (Point thumbs outward to each side.)

VIDEO | Staycation!, Episode 3

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of Cali's World.

ACTIVITY | Find the Twin

- I love playing games during a Staycation! at home, don't you?
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, you'll need a [card matching game](#). Put half of the cards on one table and the matching cards on a table across the room. Have the kids take turns running to the table, picking up a card, and bringing it back to find a match.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Place all the cards on the table face up. Pick up one card and ask toddlers to find its matching card. Say out loud what is on the card, then help them find the match.
- I will go first. I found a dog card on this table. Now, I am going to find this dog's twin on the other table. Now it's your turn! You are each going to find twins, just like the twins we learned about in the Bible story today.

PRAYER

- God, sometimes people are unkind to us and hurt our feelings. But we are so thankful that we can always trust you! Amen.

SHARING TIME

SNACK | Cereal Soup

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Pour several types of cereal into a large pot and serve into small bowls for kids with a ladle.
- Yum! Let's have some cereal soup! **What is your favorite type of cereal?**
- In our Bible story today, we heard about when Jacob wanted to be known as the older brother so badly that he tricked Esau into switching places with him over a bowl of soup. Esau was so hungry that he went for it.

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Place a large pot with a ladle in the middle of the circle. As you ask the questions below, have each kid come and take a turn to stir the pot. (There does not need to be anything in the pot.)
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Bring enough small pots and wooden spoons for each toddler to stir during the activity.
- **Who were the two boys in the story?**
- **What did Jacob cook in his pot?**
- **What did Jacob ask Esau to give him for the soup?**
- **Who is someone that you trust?**

ACTIVITY | Playing With Food

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, you'll need lemons, carrots, celery, and broccoli to serve as stamps. Have the kids dip the veggies into finger paints and [stamp the veggies onto their papers](#). If you'd like, draw a bowl or pot on their papers.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Give toddlers an [apron](#) to wear in order to protect their clothes.
- The soup that Jacob made probably had lots of vegetables in it. It was probably so yummy! Let's pretend we are Jacob and our brother Esau asked us for some soup. **What should we say?**
- God wants us to be kind and let others know they can trust us. We make mistakes sometimes but **we can trust God even when we can't trust others!**

MEMORY VERSE | Galatians 6:10 (NIV)

- “Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.”
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Teach preschoolers a small piece of the memory verse each week. This week, teach the kids the next section of Scripture by using hand motions.
- Today we are going to learn the next part of our verse. Repeat the words, and these motions, after me.
 - **And especially** (thumbs up)
 - **to those who are** (point around the room)
 - **of the household** (make a roof over your head)
 - **of faith** (prayer hands)

PLAY TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute the coloring page along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse.

ACTIVITY | Food Puzzles

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before your program, cut off the front of several food boxes and cut each food box into three or four pieces to create a puzzle. Set up a tent in the middle of the room and scatter the puzzle pieces around the tent. Have the kids work together to complete the puzzles.

ACTIVITY | Scoop It Up

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Put lentils or beans into a shallow bin. Add scoops and spoons for the kids to use.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** This activity is great for toddlers to build their motor skills. Just make sure they are supervised closely so that kids don't accidentally ingest any of the beans or lentils.