

Building Faith Brick by Brick: Jacob Wrestles God

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Week of August 2, 2020

These activities are designed to be used with LEGO bricks. However, if you don't have LEGOs at home, that's okay! Grab blocks, or boxes, or play dough, or anything else you can use to build a scene. Or, you can draw or color your response to the story on a sheet of paper.

Show us your creations by emailing photos to Victoria Hoppes at victoria@rlcindy.org. We might just share them with others!

PRAY: Life is sometimes a struggle, God. Help us to know that when you come into our lives, we are never the same. Change us in good ways, give us your wisdom, and call us back to you. Amen.

READ: Genesis 32:22-31 (For younger children, you may want to read the story of Jacob wrestling God from a story Bible.)

RESPOND AND BUILD: I wonder what it looked like when Jacob met the angel? Build a scene that shows what you think it looked like!

BUILDING QUESTIONS:

As you build, ask some of these questions to "wonder" together about the story. Pick and choose a few to guide your discussion!

- I wonder if you have ever slept outside?
- I wonder what it's like to meet God?
- I wonder if you have ever struggled with God?
- I wonder what it would be like to be close to an angel?
- I wonder if God has ever come that close to you?
- I wonder why God changed Jacob's name?
- I wonder how Jacob felt when his name was changed to Israel?
- I wonder what new name would be right for you? For me?
- I wonder who named you?
- I wonder what makes your name special?
- I wonder if God has ever changed you?

SHARE: Share your creations with each other. What did you build? You can also email photos of your creations to victoria@rlcindy.org and we will share them with the congregation!

PRAY: Dear God, thank you always being with us, even when we struggle. Help us recognize all of the ways you change us and help us grow. Amen.

Adapted from "Jacob and the Angel" in Building Faith Brick by Brick: An Imaginative Way to Explore the Bible with Children by Emily Slichter Given (Church Publishing, 2014)