

## Day 1

### Theme: Away from Home

*I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go. Genesis 28:15a*

Jacob was on the run. He had cheated and tricked his brother Esau out of his birthright. He was running away from home because Esau was out to kill him. As night fell, Jacob wrapped his cloak around him and lay down in the open, using a flat stone as a pillow.

- What worries do you think he had?
- You, too, are away from home. Even though you haven't had to run away to save your life, you are in a different place. What worries do you have?

As Jacob slept, he had a dream. He dreamed that there was a shining stairway reaching from earth all the way to heaven. He saw bright angels going up and down, and he saw God at the very top above it all. God told Jacob that he would always be with him and watch over him wherever he went. The promise that God made to Jacob is the same promise that God makes to you.

- How did you think Jacob felt after his dream?
- How do you feel knowing that God is with you here at camp?

Thank God for watching over you and for promising to be with you wherever you go.



## Day 2

### Theme: Be Your Best

*So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone. 1 Samuel 17:50a*

The Israelites were waging war against the Philistines. The Israelites were terrified of Goliath, a giant of a man who challenged the Israelites. Over and over he challenged the Israelites to pick one warrior to fight him. Nobody would face him in battle. One day David showed up at camp to deliver some grain and bread to his older brothers. David was the youngest brother, and being too young for battle, he stayed at home to take care of his father's sheep.

- As the youngest brother, how do you think David felt?
- Have you ever felt frustrated for not being allowed to do something because of your age?

When David heard Goliath, he volunteered to fight him. David told King Saul that even though he was only a boy, he was responsible for keeping his father's sheep and sometimes that meant facing lions and bears. He was confident in his training. David convinced the king to let him face Goliath. Goliath had full armor, helmet, spear, sword, and shield, but all that David had was a sling and five stones. It only took one pebble perfectly aimed for David to defeat Goliath.

- Why wasn't David worried when he saw Goliath in all his armor?
- David's job was tending the sheep. He did it well. He did his very best. What are your jobs? How can you do your very best at them? How can they prepare you for bigger and better things?
- What experiences at camp are helping you learn new skills and improve yourself?

Thank God for the opportunities you have to learn new skills and improve old ones. Ask God to help you be the best that you can be.



### Day 3

#### Theme: Caring for Others

*So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt." Exodus 3:10*

It had been many, many years since Moses had left Egypt. Since then he got married, had a family, and worked as a shepherd. One day God appeared to Moses from a burning bush. God told Moses that it was time to deliver the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt, and that God had chosen Moses for the task. God wanted to use Moses to perform signs in front of Pharaoh to convince Pharaoh to release the Israelites from captivity. Moses tried every excuse in the book to get out of doing the job God asked him to do.

- Why would Moses be reluctant to answer God's call? Why didn't he want to be the leader of the Israelites?
- Think of a time when you didn't want to be chosen for an important task. What were your reasons?

God responded to every one of Moses' excuses, and promised to be with him and help him every step of the way. But God did not allow Moses to turn the job down. God had chosen Moses, and Moses finally resigned himself. Moses took his wife and children, left his home, and journeyed to Egypt. Moses became one of the greatest leaders the Israelites had ever known.

- God wanted to use Moses to help the Israelites in captivity. Helping others is not an option. God wants and even expects us to help others. How can you help others at home? How can you help others here at camp?
- Moses didn't see himself as a leader. Name some of the leadership qualities that you see in yourself and the friends around you. How can you encourage one another?

Thank God for blessing you, and ask God to use you to help other people.



**Day 4**

**Theme: Stewards of the Earth / Honor the Land**

*Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground. Genesis 1:28b*

God created the world and everything in it. God created the land and the sea, the sun and the moon, the plants and the animals. Last of all, God created man and woman. But human beings were special. Humans were made in the image of God.

- Consider the world that God created. Name the things in nature that you enjoy. Name the things that are “awesome” and show God’s power and splendor.
- Consider yourself. How does it make you feel knowing that you are made in the image of God?

When God looked at all that he had made, God saw that it was good. And yet God turned all creation over to humans. God put people in charge of the earth and all living things. What an honor. What a responsibility!

- What does it mean to “rule” the earth and be in charge of it?
- How can you be a good caretaker of the earth at home and at camp?

Thank God for all creation. Ask God for wisdom and strength to care for the earth.



## Day 5

### Theme: Duty to God

*"Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who ... were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God. Daniel 3:28*

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were Israelites who loved God. Even though they were refugees living in another land, they tried to honor God and obey God's commandments. Then the ruler of the land built a big statue and made up a new law. This new law required everyone to bow down and worship his statue. Anyone who refused to worship his statue would be thrown into a fiery furnace.

- How do you think Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego felt when they heard about the king's new law? Do you think they were tempted to bow down to the statue just so they wouldn't be thrown into the fire?
- When have you been afraid to do the right thing? When have you felt afraid that something bad would happen to you if you didn't follow the crowd?

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego did NOT bow down to the statue. They wanted to worship God and God alone. They decided not to bow down to the statue even though it meant that they would be thrown into the fire. They were thrown into the fire, but God did not let them die! God was with them and did not let the fire hurt them. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out of the fire safe and sound. The king praised God because of their faith!

- Every Scout promises to do his "Duty to God." What do you think this means?
- How seriously do you take your Duty to God? How seriously did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego take it?
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had each other. How can good friends help you do the right thing? How can your Scouting friends help you learn about your Duty to God?

Ask God for strength to do your Duty to God. Thank God for family and friends who help you live your life in honor of God.

