

## City LG—September 25th, 2022

**Today's Bible Story:** Weighed Down (Jacob and Esau's Reconciliation) • *Genesis 31:3; 32:3-32; 33:1-17*

**Today's Bottom Line:** You can trust God even when you're worried.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5 (NIRV)*

**REMINDER: Kids will need to be grouped into Small Groups to begin Service**

**WORSHIP: "Won't Let Go" and "Higher than the Sky"**

"Hello, everyone! If you've been here at all the past couple of months, you know that we've been making our way through God's Big Story in the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*)

"In the beginning, God made the world, and it was very good! But then Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and sin entered the world. Still, God had a plan to make things right. God had a plan to bless the whole world through one family.

"God chose a man named Abraham, who had a son named Isaac, who had twin sons named Jacob and Esau. Do you remember what happened in our story last week? Jacob tricked his big brother Esau out of his rights and blessing as the oldest son.

"Now tell me, was Esau happy about that or angry? (*Pause for response.*) He was angry—SO angry that Jacob ran away. In fact, Jacob STAYED away for more than 20 years! Wow. He was angry! Have you ever been angry? What makes you angry?"

**SLIDE: Question ("What makes you angry?")**

"Take 3 minutes to answer that question with your groups! Ready? GO!"

**CG: Question Video (Runtime: 3:00)**

"To tell you what happened next, let's take a look at this week's video!"

**CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 10:00)**

"It makes sense that Jacob was worried about what Esau might do to him. Jacob knew that Esau was angry about losing his birthright and his father's blessing. A lot of time had passed, but Jacob figured Esau still wanted to get back at him. I'm sure Jacob was really scared when he saw Esau coming toward him with 400 men!

"But the thing Jacob was afraid of never actually happened. Esau WASN'T coming to get him. Esau was just happy to SEE him!

"There are things in our lives that make us feel worried, too. When that happens, we need to remember that we can still put our trust in God. Let's learn this week's Bottom Line!"

**CG: Bottom Line Video (Runtime: 1:00)**

**SLIDE: Bottom Line**

**[Bottom Line] “You can trust God even when you’re worried.**

“After all, God is with you through it all—when things are going great and also when you’re worried, nervous, or afraid. Don’t forget, you can always talk to God. You can tell God how you’re feeling. Let’s pray now and ask God to help us live with trust instead of worry.”

**PRAY:** “Dear God, thank You for knowing and understanding the things we worry about. Thank You for always being there to take care of us! Jacob must have felt really worried when he saw Esau coming in the distance. But You were with Jacob that day. And you’re with us when WE feel worried, too. Help us always remember that we can trust You, no matter what. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

“Wow! Can you imagine how scared Jacob must have been to see Esau again? I mean, he hadn’t seen his brother in years. And he definitely remembered how angry Esau had been when he left. Jacob could have run away in fear, but he knew that God had told him to go back to his father’s land. He trusted God to take care of him.

“Sure enough, God did take care of Jacob. Esau welcomed Jacob and forgave him.

“All of us worry about things from time to time. But I hope you’ll remember from this story that **[Bottom Line] you can trust God even when you’re worried.**

**SLIDE: Bottom Line**

“Let’s say that together.”

**KIDS: [Bottom Line] “You can trust God even when you’re worried.”**

“Great job! You can talk to God when you’re feeling worried or anxious about something that’s going on in your life—like if there’s a big storm outside with thunder and lightning or starting a new sport or activity . . . or maybe if there are people in your family who aren’t getting along. There are lots of things in life that can make us feel worried. But it helps if you remember that you are never alone. God is always with you. And you can talk to your family members, friends, teachers, and church leaders, too. They can help you talk about what’s going on, and they can help you through it.

“Did you know that Jesus felt worried when He was about to go to the cross? It’s true. But Jesus talked to God about it. He knew that the cross was part of God’s plan. He trusted that God was with Him, even as He had to face what was ahead of Him.

“Before we do some fun Bible Activities together with our Groups, let’s say our memory verse together. It’s Proverbs 3:5.

**SLIDE: Memory Verse**

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding. (Proverbs 3:5, NIV)*

OFFERING TIME:

Who?:

Eli and Mandy Garcia

Vida Nueva Ministries in Piedras Negras, Mexico

Remember, when you bring your offering in this month, you are helping people in Mexico learn how much Jesus loves them!

Unfortunately, many families in Mexico don't have enough money for food or school, but with our help, our mission partners have built an entire set of schools! Kids just like you can come and learn- and they receive meals and hear about Jesus, too.