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February 28-March 6

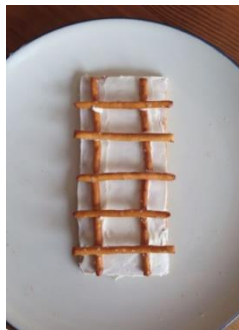
“Surely the Lord is in This Place”

1. **Rock Pillow** – Set out some large rocks. Ask who thinks these would be comfortable enough to make a pillow to sleep on. Share the story of how Jacob was traveling through the wilderness to his mother’s homeland to find a wife. Explain that on his way there, he spent the night on a pillow of stones.
 - Do you think that sleeping outside in the wilderness on a pillow of stones is somewhere where the Lord could be near to you?
 - Discuss this quote from the manual: *“He may not have expected to find the Lord in such a desolate place, but God revealed Himself to Jacob in a life-changing dream, and Jacob declared, ‘Surely the Lord is in this place; and I knew it not’ (Genesis 28:16).”* Discuss the dream in as much depth as needed.
 - Take turns laying on the rocks while sharing one thing in life that might be difficult to go through.
 - You could also lay on some kind of hard floor, cut rock shapes out of construction paper, and write down hard things we might go through on those papers.
 - If you can’t find large rocks, you could also use big, hard books, or whatever other hard things you have.
 - Testify that the Lord can be with us during difficult times. Share personal experiences.
2. **Make a Ladder/Christ** – Use tape to make the shape of a ladder going up a wall. Tape picture of Christ at the top of the ladder (printable copy on page 4 below). Talk about ways we can get closer to the Lord in our lives. Write these on the tape pieces representing the ladder rungs. We’ll probably focus on covenants made at baptism, sacrament, the temple, and tithing since Genesis 28:22 talks about how Jacob covenanted to give a tenth unto the Lord.
 - **Jesus Christ:** While looking at the picture of Christ at the top of the ladder, discuss this quote from Elder Yoon Hwan Choi: *“Hold on to your faith in those hard times. Look up to Christ for strength, balance, and healing. Through the power of the Atonement of Jesus Christ, ‘all things shall work together for [your] good.’...As we pray and study the scriptures every day and partake sincerely of the sacrament every week, we gain the strength to *always* look up to Him.”*
 - **Video:** Watch and discuss [“Lucy and the Ladder”](#) from Latter Day Kids.
3. **Angels on Ladder** – Color angels to place on the ladder to represent the angels ascending and descending on the ladder in Jacob’s dream (page 5 below has some that could be used). Remind them that angels are watching over us and sent to help us, even though we don’t always see them.
4. **Nearer My God to Thee** – The manual teaches that the hymn “Nearer, My God, to Thee” was inspired by Jacob’s dream. [This “Nearer, My God, to Thee” music video from the church](#) has some great pictures that show Christ being with people who need help. Watch and discuss how the Lord wants to be near to us and help us always.

5. “I Am With Thee” Scripture Draw – Genesis 28:15 says, “And behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.” Talk about who the “I” referred to in the scripture is.
- Do the scripture draw on page 3 below. Crystal from theredcrystal.org also has a [cute coloring picture](#) page that could be used for this.
 - Explain that even though Jacob saw this vision, life wasn’t always easy for him. He still went through hard trials, but through the Lord’s help, he learned and grew from those trials. If wanted, talk in detail about some of those trials (Esau being mad at him, them making amends, trying to talk Rachel’s dad into letting him marry her, etc.).
6. Temples – President Marion G. Romney stated, “Temples are to us all what Bethel was to Jacob.” How can temples help us feel close to the Lord? Remind them that D&C 109:22 promises that when we go to the temple, “angels have charge over [us].” Talk more about temples in as much depth as wanted.
- A fun extension of this could be to walk around a temple near you, and then make edible temples using sugar cubes or marshmallows with frosting as glue.



7. Edible Ladder Treat – If you’re not doing the edible temple activity, use graham crackers, frosting, and pretzels to make edible ladders while reviewing Jacob’s dream. Image from [this website](#).

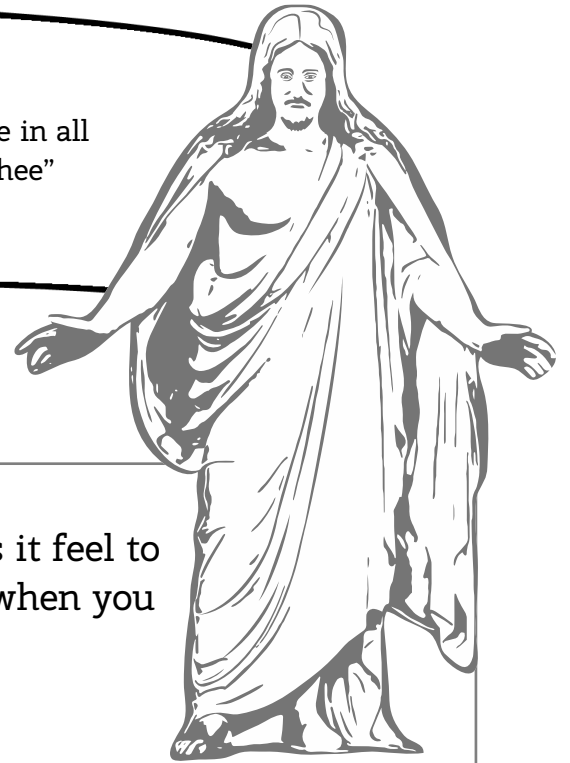


Additional Ideas:

More Great Free Ideas at www.theredcrystal.org
[Old Testament Cartoon Videos from the Church Website](#)
[Jacob’s Ladder Toy Instructions](#)

Genesis 28:15

“And behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest...I will not leave thee”



Draw a picture of the Lord with you. How does it feel to know that He is near to you in your life, even when you might not see Him?

I AM WITH
THEE



