Parish of the Epiphany Faith-at-Home: Week of February 27, 2022 Storymakers Stars Chapter: 12 Brothers

Overview

Today we complete our *Stars* Zine and the story of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God made a promise to Abraham, and God was faithful to this promise.

In today's story, Jacob and his family make their way back home after many, many years. Although Jacob feared his brother's reaction, Esau ran to Jacob and embraced him. Jacob was far from perfect; in fact, he struggled with jealousy and telling the truth quite a lot! But God loved Jacob, always, and always forgave him. Esau, too, chose to forgive and embrace his brother.

Stars Chapter 12, Brothers

Before looking at today's painting and reading today's story, ask each other *What do we remember about Jacob and his story? And what did we learn about God, as we heard Jacob's story?*

Look at the picture on page 95. What do we see in this picture? Does this give you a clue about our story? What do you notice about the colors? Any little details you see? What do you think is happening?

Now read the story together, and then wonder . . . Did Esau act the way you expected? How do you think this felt for Jacob? How do you think this felt for Esau?

Continue through your Field Notes. When you get to the activity pages, find the envelope in your bag, where you'll find the watercolors and special paper.

We have just finished an epic story. We went through three generations—Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. They all struggled in different ways; none of them were perfect. But, God loved them all and they were all part of God's good work. Through this family, we learn a lot about God. (Eventually, Jesus would be born into this family!)

Remember: God runs to us like Esau ran to Jacob. We never have to hide from God, no matter what. And remember what God said to Jacob: "I will not leave you." God won't leave us. either!

Ending prayer:

Dear Lord, thank you that you always run to us, like Esau ran to Jacob. Thank you for loving imperfect people. Thank you for your promise that you will not leave us. Thank you that we can always talk to you, about anything. Amen.