

LEARNER SHEET: FATHER IN HEAVEN

Genesis 32:22-30



THE BIG IDEA

**The God of all things is
our God.**

BIG FUN IDEA

Create a survey about how people imagine God and heaven. They can write or draw their answers. Divide into pairs and scatter around the church to administer your survey. Bring clipboards and open hearts. Tell responders that you want to know how they see God and heaven. Ask them if their images have changed over the years. Provide paper for drawing or writing, or record their responses with a tape recorder.

BIG SERVING IDEA

Make a Lord's Prayer voice choir. Work with your pastor to arrange for a time to lead the Lord's Prayer in worship. Write a script together that presents the prayer in an interesting voice-choir format. Practice for several weeks as you study the Lord's Prayer. If your learners are singers, work with a choir director to rehearse a musical version of the Lord's Prayer to present in worship.

PRAYER TIME

Remember your partner's prayer needs—record them here.

DISCUSSION TIME

- **How does the Lord's Prayer call us to care about others?**

- **Rabbi Hillel once said "If I am not for others, what am I? And if not now, when?" Tell one other person about a time today when you felt like God was working through you.**

- **We are praying to our Father today as a group. What do we need to ask God for together? What does our group need? What does our group have to offer?**

LEARNER TAKE-HOME SHEET: FATHER IN HEAVEN

Genesis 32:22-30



Take this sheet home and keep it someplace near the dinner table like on the fridge. At least three times next week at dinner, use Prayer Time and one other family activity to make your confirmation learning come alive!

PRAYER TIME

Make a commitment to pray the Lord's Prayer once a day together this week. Pick the time that works best for your family. Let the power of the "our" unite you as a family, recognizing that groups of people, not just individuals, must consider the things they receive and seek from God. You can begin the prayer with a prayer, "Lord, teach us to pray..."

KEY WORDS

Keep a family white board someplace near the dinner table, and write these words on it. Try writing a family definition for each one during the week.

ACCESS
OUR
BOUNDLESS

TALK TIME

- Look at the clock and do a check of how many hours you get to spend together in your family. "Our Father" reminds us that God is with us at the same time God is present to all of God's kingdom. Talk about how you can remember each other's presence during the hours when you are separated.
- Find photos of family members who have died. Honor these ancestors by talking about them and their faith. Did they ever talk about heaven? If they could offer wisdom to your family, what would they say?
- How could your family better teach others about the faith you inherited from your ancestors?



WEB TIME

Gather around the family computer and use an Internet search engine to search for the key words from today's lesson. Write down the most interesting site you find that pops up for each term. Then do a search for the word *Abba*. What do you find? Explore five sites that mention the term, and discuss the various opinions and perspectives you find. What are they trying to say? What kind of organizations do you think built the sites? Discuss.

RITUAL TIME

Is the daily newspaper available? Go through it quickly and look for the words "Our Father in heaven." Why would "heaven" be so hard to find? Look at the pictures of people in the paper and talk about what it means that these people are our "brothers and sisters" in God's view.