

Listen carefully to the Bible reading starting from Genesis chapter 48 verse 1.

Read chapter 48 verses 1 and 2 again. What were the names of Joseph's two sons?

M_____ and E_____

How was Jacob feeling in these verses? _____

Jacob was soon going to die. These chapters tell us about some of the very important things he said to his children and grandchildren before he died.

We are going to look at some of the **amazing things** he says about **God** as he blesses his children.

Read verses 15 and 16 then fill in the missing words below.

Jacob says God has been his _____ all his life long.

There is a big word in verse 16 - can you see it?

Jacob says - "the angel who has _____ me from all evil..."

Jacob means that God **rescued** him from all evil.

So Jacob calls God his shepherd

and his rescuer!

What does a shepherd do for their sheep? Think of three things:

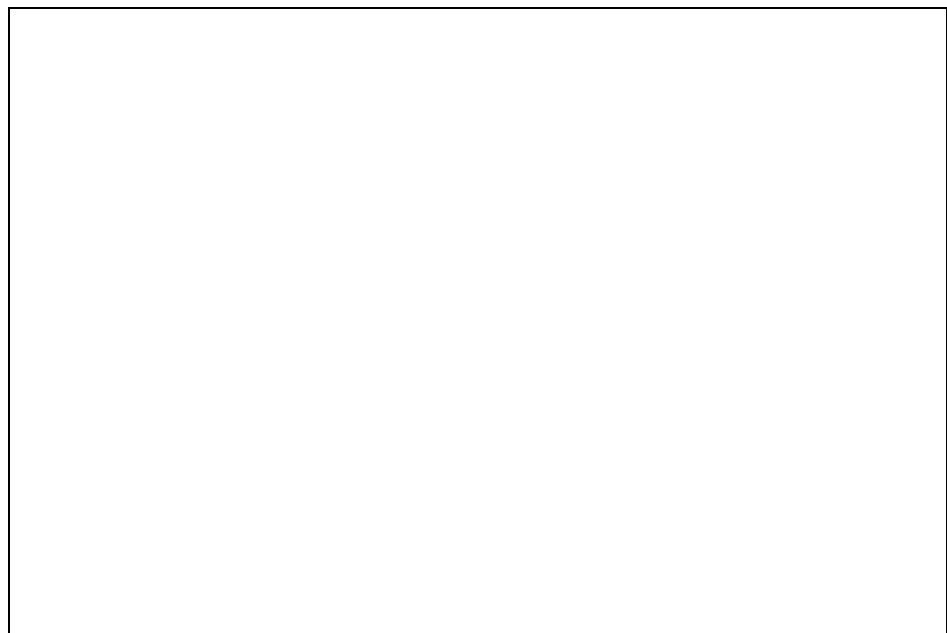
1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

So how do you think God is like a shepherd towards Jacob and his people?

Can you draw something to remind you how God is like a shepherd and a rescuer?



Next Jacob blesses each of his sons. We are especially going to look at what he says to Judah.

Read chapter 49 verses 8 to 12.

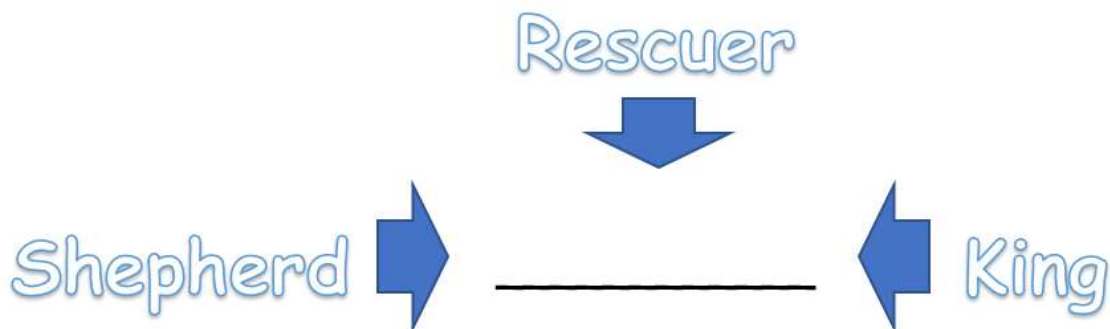
Jacob uses picture language here to show how a **king** will come from Judah's family. Look through the verses again. Which two of these items does Jacob use to point to this king? Circle them.



It is wonderful that Jacob trusted God's promises! He knew God was in control and that he would take good care of his people.

But Jacob didn't know who this king would be! Many years later God would send him to be his great rescuer, good shepherd and forever king.

Who was it? (Use the letters at the bottom of the last page if you need a clue!)



This is what Jesus said:

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

John 10v11

Use the words in the box to complete the sentences:

forgiven	Judah	shepherd	love	punished
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Like Jacob and _____ we have done wrong against

God. We deserve to be _____ by God. But God's

_____ is so great! Jesus the good _____

died for us, to be punished in our place, so we can be

_____. This is how he can rescue us!

Pray: Isn't it wonderful to know we have a good shepherd who cares for us? Thank God for Jesus who is our good shepherd and rescuer.

Remember:

Can you remember the three things from today's passage about who Jesus is? Turn back a page and find the arrows if you need a reminder. Tell them to a grown up after the service!

Can you remember the verse at the top of this page? Try and say it without looking!

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