

Today we're going to hear from Jacob as he

thinks about what his **life** has been

like and we're also going to hear what he

thinks about **God**.

Jacob talks about two big things that have happened in his life:

Firstly, the **promises**

God gave his Father and Grandfather about

how he would give them a **land**, a

nation and blessing. These are great promises but at the moment Jacob is not in

the promised land and his family is not very big (although it is growing!)

Secondly Jacob talks about the

**sad** death of his much-loved wife.

So, if these are the things he talks about from his life, what will he say about God?

Amazingly, he calls him the

**Shepherd** who

has been with him all his life and has

**redeemed** him

from all evil.

And what's really good news is that as the bible goes on, we see Jesus the good

shepherd who lays down his **life** for

his sheep. (That's us if we trust in Him).

The next amazing thing we see in our passage is that God is good at

**reversals** (that

means turning things around). Jacob's sons have been a pretty rotten bunch but Jacob

still **blesse**s them all.

They are all going to make up the nation of Israel, God's people. We might have got rid of some of them but God does things

**His way** and can turn

around bad things so that good can come out of them.

Pray with your grown-up asking God to help you trust Him to be your shepherd and thank him that he can bring good out of bad. Colour the picture of the shepherd to remind you that is what God is like.



God is

our

Shepherd