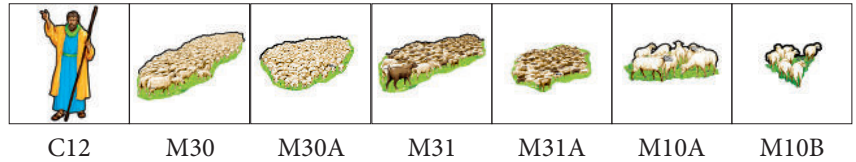
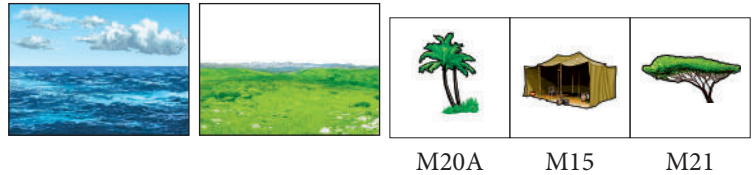
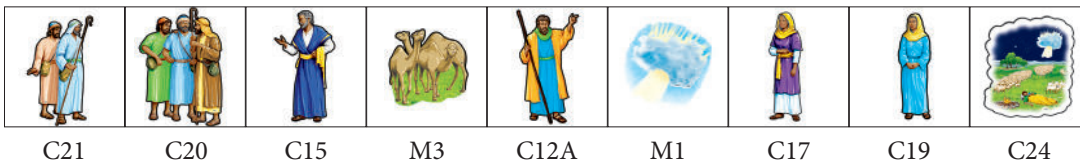


Story 9. God Calls Jacob to Return to Canaan
Genesis 31:1-18










Backgrounds/Overlays (For scene one/in order used)






Figures (in order used)




About twenty long years have passed since Jacob first arrived in Haran. But his relationship with Laban is not what it used to be. Deception, manipulation and distrust have reduced their relationship to a business arrangement. Jacob worked his first fourteen years for Rachel after being tricked into marrying Leah. After that Jacob wanted to return to Canaan, but Laban pleaded with Jacob to stay because he realized that the blessing of God was on everything Jacob touched. After Laban agreed to pay Jacob with livestock of his own, Jacob continued to care for Laban's flocks. Now six more years have passed and the situation is worse than ever.

Now Jacob overheard what Laban's sons were saying,  "Jacob has taken everything that used to be our father's."  And, "It is from our father that Jacob has gained all his wealth."  And Jacob saw that Laban did not look at him with kindness anymore like he used to. **(Remove)**     **(Add)**  


Then the Lord said to Jacob,  Go back to the land of your fathers—back to your own family and I will be with you." **(Remove)** 

So Jacob sent a message to  Rachel and Leah asking them to come out to the field where his flocks were.

 And Jacob said to them, "I can see that your father no longer looks at me with affection. But my father's

God has been with me. You know that I have served your father with all my strength. Yet he has cheated me and changed our agreement ten times. But God has not permitted him to harm me.

If your father said, "The spotted livestock shall be your wages"—all the flocks gave birth to spotted lambs. If he said, "The livestock with stripes shall be your wages,"—all the flocks bore striped lambs. In this way God has taken your father's livestock away from him and given them to me. During the breeding season of the flocks I

lifted up my eyes  and in a dream I saw that all the rams that mated with the flocks were striped, spotted, and speckled. Then the angel of God spoke to me in a dream, ‘Jacob,’ and I said, ‘I am here!’ And the angel said, ‘Lift up your eyes and look, do you see how all the goats that mate with the flocks are striped, spotted, and speckled? Because I have seen all that Laban is doing to you. I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed the pillar and made a vow to me. Now get up and leave this land and return to the land of your family.’”

(Remove) 

Then Rachel and Leah answered Jacob and said, “Is there any inheritance left for us in our father’s house, even a small one? Doesn’t he treat us as foreigners? Didn’t he sell us and consume what he was paid for us? All the wealth that God has taken away from our father now belongs to us and to our children. So whatever God has told you to do—do it.”

(Remove everything except)   

So Jacob got ready and set his sons and his wives on camels. Then he left, driving before him all of his livestock—all the property that he had acquired while living in Paddan-aram. And Jacob left to go back to his father Isaac in the land of Canaan.