

RaYBaSH's Torah Thoughts for Kids
Parashah #8 Vayishlach "And He Sent"
Gen. 32:4-36:43
By: Yehudah ben Shomeyr

Gen. 32:8-13 And said, If Esau come to the one company, and smite it, then the other company which is left shall escape. And Jacob said, O God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, the LORD which saidst unto me, Return unto thy country, and to thy kindred, and I will deal well with thee: I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which thou hast shewed unto thy servant; for with my staff I passed over this Jordan; and now I am become two bands. Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau: for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, and the mother with the children. And thou saidst, I will surely do thee good, and make thy seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude. And he lodged there that same night; and took of that which came to his hand a present for Esau his brother;

Have you ever been scared of a bully or even an older brother or sister? Afraid they were going to beat you up? Well Jacob felt that way about his brother Esau. But God took all of Jacob's fears away and made him brave and wise so he could win without having to fight. Sometimes you have to fight to defend yourself, but fighting is never the solution to a problem. Trusting God and asking Him for help is.

If you are being bullied, don't be afraid to tell a grown-up, parent or teacher. That is just part of being smart. And don't be afraid to stand up to a bully. Most bullies back down when they themselves are challenged. We do all we can do and God does what we can't do.

Shabbat Shalom,
-- Yehudah ben Shomeyr