

*Preschool Summer*  
*Lesson 10:*  
*Genesis – Jacob Has a Family*

**Objectives:** Students will...

- 1) Study Genesis Chapter 29: Jacob leaves his family to go to Haran and marries
- 2) Learn that Jacob becomes a husband and has a family

**Accommodations:** How will I accommodate individual needs of students? See Lesson 1 for ideas

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**Supplies:** Check with coordinator to ensure supplies are ready.

**Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)**

- Pens/Pencils
- Bible (please bring your own)
- Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Attendance Sheet
- Stickers – enough for each child to have one every lesson for 13 lessons
- Jacob is a Shepherd Color Page – one per child
- Sheep Face Template – one per child printed on white construction or cardstock paper cut out before class
- String to tie the mask together – enough for each child
- Cotton balls – enough for each child to cover the head of their sheep mask – approximately 6 each if torn and fluffed
- Hole punch to share
- Glue sticks to share
- Scissors for teacher to help cut out sheep face template – to share

**Optional Activities**

- Storybook of the Bible story with pictures to show kids (if available) and/or
  - Flannel Display Board or Visual Aids. (if available)
  - Cotton balls – enough for each child to have some to glue onto color page sheep
  - Glue sticks to share
  - Grass clippings – enough for each child to glue or tape some grass onto color page
  - Stickers of livestock animals to add to color page
  - Mirror for children to look in
  - Dolls and Animals – enough to share OR
  - Play dough – enough to share
  - Sand Box Jacob Play Time
  - Large Flat Plastic Bin with sand poured inside
  - Plastic Dolls or Dolls made out of pipe cleaners – enough for children to share
  - Little Tents made out of pipe cleaners and paper or cloth – enough to share
  - Plastic small animals – sheep, cows, camels, etc. – enough to share
  - Snack – Animal crackers - 6 per child
  - Napkins
  - Cups with water or milk
  - Puppet to tell students the real events from the Bible
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## Lesson:

### 1) Introduction to lesson:

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied). Write each child's name on the sheet provided. Let each child put a sticker beside their name for this week. Have them sit around the table.

Say to students, **"We learned last time that Jacob had a special dream while he was on a journey. In that dream God told Jacob that God would be with him and help him and bless him. We will see today that God keeps His promises! God helped Jacob have a family and find a good wife. God helped Jacob and God wants to help us too!"**

**First let's sing a song about worshiping God -Jacob worshiped God when he set up a stone pillar in honor of God after his dream. Today we worship God by singing songs to Him, praying, reading the Bible and going to church to name a few!**

#### **This is the Way**

Sung to the tune of Here We Go 'Round the Mulberry Bush

This is the way we sing to God,  
Sing to God, sing to God.  
This is the way we sing to God,  
When we worship Him.

This is the way we pray to God,  
pray to God, pray to God.  
This is the way we pray to God,  
When we worship Him.  
(Show hands together as if in prayer)

This is the way we read our Bible,  
Read our Bible, read our Bible.  
This is the way we read our Bible, when we worship Him.  
(Show hands opening as if your hands were a book and you were trying to read)

### 2) Jacob Finds a Wife - Rachel

10-15 minutes

**\*Optional:** If you have a puppet you can use the puppet to tell the event in the Bible.

**\*Optional:** if you have a book with pictures showing this story you can show the pictures as you read from the Bible, or if you have flannel characters, etc. you can use those as visuals while reading from the Bible.

**Note: Optional** – Jacob and his family lived in tents. Let the kids help you set up a tent as you tell the story, or if you don't have a tent, use a sheet or two and drape them over a table and crawl inside while you share the story of Abraham.

Read **Genesis 29:1, 9-15, 18.**

29 Then Jacob continued on his journey and came to the land of the eastern peoples.

<sup>9</sup>While he was still talking with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep, for she was a shepherdess. <sup>10</sup>When Jacob saw Rachel daughter of his uncle Laban, and Laban's sheep, he went over and rolled the stone away from the mouth of the well and watered his

uncle's sheep. <sup>11</sup> Then Jacob kissed Rachel and began to weep aloud. <sup>12</sup> He had told Rachel that he was a relative of her father and a son of Rebekah. So she ran and told her father.

<sup>13</sup> As soon as Laban heard the news about Jacob, his sister's son, he hurried to meet him. He embraced him and kissed him and brought him to his home, and there Jacob told him all these things. <sup>14</sup> Then Laban said to him, "You are my own flesh and blood."

After Jacob had stayed with him for a whole month, <sup>15</sup> Laban said to him, "Just because you are a relative of mine, should you work for me for nothing? Tell me what your wages should be."<sup>18</sup> Jacob was in love with Rachel and said, "I'll work for you seven years in return for your younger daughter Rachel." After seven years Jacob married Rachel!

### **Discuss the following Questions:**

**What did Rachel do for a job?** She was a shepherdess – cared for sheep.

**What did Jacob do when he saw Rachel?** watered her sheep, kissed her and wept and then told her he was a relative.

**What did Rachel do?** Go get her father.

**Did Jacob want to marry Rachel?** Yes and he did!

Say, **after Jacob married Rachel they had two sons – Joseph and Benjamin!**

**Remember last week we studied that Jacob had a dream and that God said he would bless him with a family and take care of him – God kept his promise! God took care of Jacob and helped him be a shepherd. Which is someone who takes care of sheep. God also blessed Jacob with a family. God is great!**

**Let's sing:**

### **The Bible is God's Book (To the tune of Farmer in the Dell)**

The Bible is God's Book,  
His words are written there.  
I like to open it and read,  
That I am in His care.

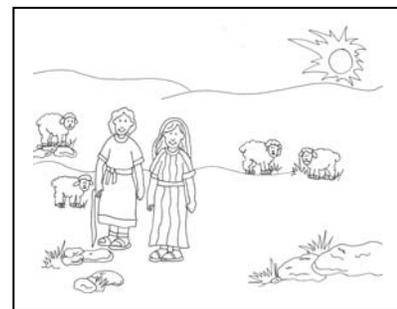
He cares for you and me.  
He cares for you and me.  
Just like he cared for Jacob  
Yes, He cares for you and me.

### **3) Jacob is a Shepherd Color Page**

**10-15 minutes**

Hand out one page to each child with crayons. Let children color the page while you talk about Jacob's new family. Remind the students about Jacob and what he did – raise Sheep. Also that Jacob had a wife named Rachel and two Sons – Joseph and Benjamin with Rachel.

\*Optional: take glue sticks and cotton balls and let children glue the cotton balls onto the sheep to make them fluffy. You can also pick some grass from outside and let them tape or glue grass clippings onto the grass pieces on the picture as well. Finally if available use stickers of livestock animals such as cows, camels, sheep, donkeys, etc. and let the children stick them on the page for decoration.



#### 4) Follow God – Jacob Game

5 minutes

Line the students up in a row so that they can all see you and have enough space to move their hands and feet without hitting anyone beside them.

**Say to the students: I am going to say “Jacob” and then an action word. I want you to follow and do what I say. Just like Jacob followed God and went where God told him, we are going to follow along and do what I say, ok? Ready? Everyone quiet and listen.....good job**

Jacob – touch your hands together

Jacob – say “Thank You God.”

Jacob – pack your bags (pretend to pack bags for moving)

Jacob – say “I follow God”

Jacob – say “God made my family”

Jacob – take care of your sheep (pretend to walk and pet your sheep)

Jacob – sleep on a stone pillow (pretend to lay your head in your hands like a pillow)

Jacob – pray to God (pretend to fold your hands and bow your head)

Jacob – give your family a hug (pretend to hug people)

Jacob – rock your baby Joseph to sleep (pretend to rock a baby in your arms)

Jacob – sit down!

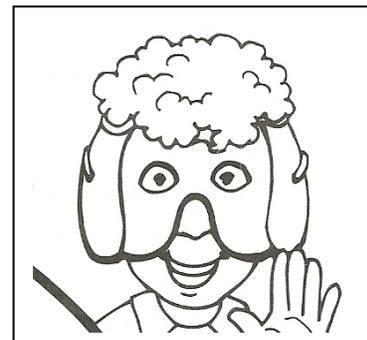
Thank class for playing and then have them sit at the table for the next activity.

#### 5) Sheep Face Craft

10 minutes

Before class: cut out the pattern from the sheep face template. Cut out the eye areas as well.

During class: hand out one sheet per child and let them glue on ripped pieces of cotton balls in the area marked with an \*. Punch holes on the ears as indicated and tie a string to fit the mask to each child’s head. Let each child look in a mirror if possible to see what they look like and let them pretend to be sheep and crawl around on their hands and knees for a few minutes. You can also count your sheep to see how many are in your flock. You can gather your sheep and have them follow you the shepherd around the room or hallways, just like real sheep do.



#### 6) Optional: Follow the Leader – Jacob Follows God Game

5 minutes

Have students line up behind you. Tell them they are going to play follow the leader – just like Jacob followed and obeyed God by worshipping Him. Have teacher assistant go at the back of the line so he/she can watch the children and keep them in line. March around the room doing different actions that they are to follow as you go, examples are pat your head, once everyone is marching and patting their head, then switch to put arms in the air and back down, jump up and down, hop on one foot, tip toe, crawl, etc. The idea is to get the children to follow you. When finished, tell them **“Good job – you followed just like Jacob did. Let’s remember that it is good to follow God and do what He says.**

**7) Optional: Jacob's Family Play Dolls/Play dough****5-10 minutes**

Pass around dolls, play dough, animals or books about Jacob and his family and other things that will help children remember that they learned about the fact that Jacob was a shepherd and had a wife named Rachel and had two sons named Joseph and Benjamin. Say, **"The Bible tells us that Jacob was blessed with a family. Now we are going to use our dolls or play dough and books and make things or use these things to remember that Jacob was a shepherd who took care of animals and had a family!"** Let students play with the dolls and books and then clean up.

**8) Optional: Sand Box Play Time with Jacob****5-10 minutes**

Before class make pipe cleaner tents and dolls and/or purchase plastic dolls with plastic animals. Fill a large flat plastic bin  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the way with sand for the children to play in. If needed make two bins if there are more than 4 children so they all have a side to play in.

Explain that Jacob left home and found his relatives and got married. While he was staying with his relatives he lived in tents and would have to move his animals along with him as well. Let the children move the dolls from place to place along with animals and tents. Pretend the people are Jacob and his family and taking care of the animals. Talk about Jacob, his family and how he lived in a tent in the desert.

**9) Sing**

**Choose songs from the Songs section of the binder especially songs about Jacob**

**The Bible is God's Book  
(To the tune of Farmer in the Dell)**

The Bible is God's Book,  
His words are written there.  
I like to open it and read,  
That I am in His care.

He cares for you and me.  
He cares for you and me.  
Just like he cared for Jacob  
Yes, He cares for you and me.

**10) Optional – Snack : Animal Crackers****5 minutes**

Hand out animal crackers enough for each child. Also give each child a glass of water or juice. Explain that, **"When Jacob made it to Haran, he found his relative Rachel who was a shepherdess – a woman who took care of sheep. Let's see if we can find any sheep in our animal crackers today! Also, see if you can find other animals that we have read belong in the area Jacob was in- example camels, cows, goats, wild animals, etc.** Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss questions while snacking!

## **11) Close in prayer**

Ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray, then say: Thank You God for the world You made and for showing us people in the Bible who followed You. Thank you God for our families too.

Thank you God for your Son Jesus who loves us too and thank you God for everyone here today and those who could not be here because they were sick or away. We pray you will bring us all back to Sunday school next week safely. In Jesus name, Amen.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!