

## Lesson 2: The Life of Jacob –Jacob Flees

**Objectives:** Students will...

- 1) Study Genesis Chapter 27-28: Jacob leaves his family to go to Haran
- 2) Learn that God will be with us if we follow him.
- 3) Do activities that remind us of Jacob's life beginning to turn to God.

### Supplies:

#### Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Light Colored Construction Paper – one per child
- Words to Describe Jacob and Esau – one sheet per child
- Scissors – one per child
- Glue sticks to share

#### Optional:

- Storybook of this chapter in Genesis with pictures to show kids (if available) and/or
- Flannel Display Board and characters to show the story of this chapter. (if available)

#### Snack:

- Fruits and/or berries enough per child
- Napkins for snack one per child
- Juice or water and cup one per child

### Lesson:

#### 1) Introduction to Lesson

2-5 minutes

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming.

Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied). Let each child put a sticker beside their name for this week. Once children are seated say:

**This quarter we will continue to study about the life of Jacob.**

**What did we study last week about Jacob and his family?** Jacob stole Esau's blessing from his father Isaac and because of it his brother was angry enough to kill him so his mom told him to leave to Haran where her family is from. **Today we will see that Jacob - because he deceived and lied – has to flee from his family!**

#### 2) Jacob Has to Flee for His Life

5 minutes

Have students turn to **Genesis 27: 41- 45** and ask a volunteer to read or read it yourself.

Ask:

**Why does Jacob leave his family?** Because his older brother is so angry that he wants to kill him for stealing his blessing and being a deceiver.

**Many of these problems happened because Isaac and Rebekah picked favorites. Now that we have read this story, why is it not a good idea to have favorites in a family, by this I mean not liking one person more than another?** When one is treated special, the other gets angry. You might cause family members to lie and cheat. The one who is hurt, might want to seek revenge

and get back at the other person rather than showing love. Problems occur between siblings and problems occur between parents to name a few.

### 3) **Jacob Leaves His Family and Esau Marries Again** **15-20 minutes**

Ask students to turn to Genesis 27:46. Then ask for a volunteer(s) to read **Genesis 27:46-28:9**.

Discuss the following Questions:

**Why did Isaac say Jacob could go?** Because Rebekah pretended that she was upset.

**What was the concern about a wife?** She was not to be from the land they were in, which was called Canaan, but from Rebekah's homeland in Haran.

**When Esau learned that his parents were not pleased with the women from Canaan what did he do?** Married a descendant of Ishmael – his uncles family.

**Would that please his parents?** Allow students to answer but main idea is no, because Isaac and Rebekah wanted Esau to follow God and be a good man, and out of respect involve them, not just go marry yet another woman.

**What could Esau have done instead?** Allow children to answer. Ideas may include: talk to his parents, pray to God, ask for forgiveness, ask for advice, but not marry yet another woman that would not stop what he had already done, which was marrying without involving his family in the decision making process!

God says we are only to have one person we marry, not more. Turn to **Genesis 2:20-24** and read it aloud. Then say: **When God made woman and man, He said the woman was to be a helper for the man and that they were to be united together as one. That means not to marry other people but remain together. So Esau was continuing to disobey God by adding wives when God only intended him to have one wife.**

Allow for other questions before moving on.

### 4) **Attributes Collage** **15-20 minutes**

Hand out one piece of construction paper to each child along with pencil crayons. Have students write 4 names in the middle of the paper in a line. (Help younger students with spelling). Hand out one sheet of "Words to Describe" to each child with scissors as well.

Isaac

Rebekah

Jacob

Esau

Then ask the students to write or draw different things they know about each person based on what the Bible has taught about them. Include characteristics like kind, tricky, quiet, and respectful. You can also include physical attributes – beautiful, hairy, etc. Look at the Bible Genesis chapters 22- 27 for ideas. Have the children draw what each person – based on what the Bibles says – would look like. Let them cut out the words that describe and read them aloud so each child knows what it says. They can cut and paste the word under the right name for Jacob and Esau. \*You may need to help younger children with words. Or you can allow them to draw what they think each person looked like – Esau red and hairy, Rebekah beautiful, etc. When drawing they could draw what they remember about each person. Isaac being tricked, Jacob lying, Esau choosing stew over his responsibility as first born, etc.

**5) Optional – Snack : Fruit and Berries****5 minutes**

Hand out pieces of different fruits or berries enough for each child. Also give each child a glass of water or juice. Explain that, **“When Jacob fled, he probably didn’t get to pack well. These fruits and berries are to remind us of the small meals he would have probably been eating as he travelled – he may even have had to pick fruit or berries on the way to help him get enough to eat. It would have been better if Jacob did not lie and have to flee in the first place!** Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss questions while snacking.

**6) Optional – Songs****5 minutes**

Have children sing songs with you. Some examples:

**1) Old Testament Books of the Bible – Sung to the Alphabet song****2) Twinkle Twinkle – Abraham’s family Song**

Sung to “Twinkle Twinkle Little Star” Tune

Twinkle Twinkle little stars  
No one knows how many there are.  
God promised Abraham a son.  
Isaac was the promised one.  
Now Abraham’s family is like the stars.  
We can’t count how many there are.

**3) Father Abraham Song with Actions – see lyrics from Lesson 1****7) Close in prayer**

\*If desired, ask the children if they have any prayer requests and write them down to help you remember. Then ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray.

Thank God that we can learn from the people in the Old Testament and that we can learn to do the good things they did and avoid the bad things they did. Help us to remember to honor our parents, listen to them, and ask them for help and guidance when making decisions. And, pray that we will trust and rely on God. Pray for those who are sick or weak and could not attend and pray they will be able to return next week. Pray for those in the church family that they will worship God in Spirit and truth as He asks us to.

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Thank you for serving Christ in this way!