

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

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!**

Let's sing a song about Abraham to the tune "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star". We will sing it twice.

Twinkle Twinkle – Abraham's family Song

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.

2) Jacob Has to Flee for His Life

5 minutes

Have students turn to **Genesis 27: 41- 45** read it aloud. Hand out Bibles if needed and show them where Genesis is and where the chapter and verses are. Ask them to follow along as you read.

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

15-20 minutes

Ask students to turn to Genesis 27:46. Then read **Genesis 27:46-28:5**.

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.

Was Isaac nice to Jacob even though Jacob had lied to him? Yes.

What can we learn from Isaac? We should be nice even when someone has been mean to us.

Did Jacob obey his parents and go to Haran? Yes

Allow for other questions before moving on.

*Some students may ask why it is good that Jacob listened this time, but last lesson his mom Rebekah told him to trick his father Isaac and he obeyed then too. Wasn't Jacob just obeying both times? Go to Leviticus 19:11 in the Bible and read it aloud

“Do not steal. “Do not lie. “Do not deceive one another.” This shows that God says we should not lie. So if our parent asked us to lie, we could show them this verse. Jacob never asked God about help in his situation, he didn't say anything to his mom about the sin of lying. So even though his mom shouldn't have asked him to lie, he still had the responsibility to tell her that by lying and tricking he would be sinning and that he was not willing to disobey his father in order to obey his mother. Also, Jacob could have taken some time to pray and ask God for help in the situation. We can do the same today!

4) Optional – Parent Says – Action 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: **We are going to play a game about listening to our parents. I want you to follow and do what I say. When I say, “parents say”, I want you to do what they tell you to, ok? Jacob obeyed his mom and dad and moved to Haran, we need to remember to obey our parents too when they ask us to do things that God would approve of”** The idea is you ask the students to do different things that would show honor to their parents.

*Option: You can also change this to Simon Says but use “Parent Says” tell students that if you say “Parent says” and then an action they should do it, if you don't say “Parent says” first, then they

should not do the action. Praise those that were able to follow. Continue to allow children who made a mistake to keep playing. Continue for a few minutes.

Ready? Everyone quiet and listen.....good job...

Here are some ideas to get started, you can add your own as well.

- Parents say put your toys away (pretend to clean)
- Parents say go to bed (lay down and pretend to fall asleep)
- Parents say put on your socks (pretend to put on socks)
- Parents say help your mother (act like they are helping mom with something)
- Parents say stand up straight (practice good posture)
- Parents say eat your supper before desert (pretend to eat)
- Parents say brush your teeth (pretend to brush teeth)
- Parents say give a hug (pretend to hug)
- Parents say - say thank you (say thank you)
- Parents say - say I love you (say I love you)

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

5) 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.

6) 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.

7) 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** – see lyrics above
- 3) **Father Abraham Song with Actions** – see lyrics from Lesson 1

8) 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.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!