

## Lesson 4: The Life of Jacob –Jacob Gets a New Family

**Objectives:** Students will...

- 1) Study Genesis Chapter 29: Jacob starts a new family of his own
- 2) Learn that it is never good to deceive or lie.

### Supplies:

#### Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Jacob in Haran Break the Code Sheet – one per child
- Jacob Works as a Shepherd Color Page – one per child
- Cotton balls – 3 each 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:**

- |                          |               |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| - Animal Crackers        | 6 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:

**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. His mom told him to leave to Haran where her family was from. On the way, Jacob had a dream and God promised He would be with him. Jacob made a pillar and promised that if God would help him, then Jacob would serve God.

#### **2) Jacob Meets His Relatives in Haran**

**5-10 minutes**

Ask students to turn to Genesis 29:1. Read **Genesis 29:1-14**. Show visuals if available.

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

**After Jacob built the pillar to God he continued his journey to Haran – who did he see there?**

The men who water their sheep and Rachel.

**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.

Allow for other questions if the students have any before moving on.

### 3) Jacob's Turn to Be Deceived

10 minutes

**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.

Ask the students to listen as you read **Genesis 29:14-30**.

#### Discussion Questions:

**What was Jacob's wages for working for Laban?** After seven years he would get to marry Rachel.

**Was Rachel the only sister?** No she had an older sister not married.

**What did Laban do on the wedding day?** Tricked Jacob and gave him Leah instead!

Back then the women wore veils so he would not recognize who she was until sometime after the wedding.

**What did Jacob do when he found out?** Confronted Laban about his lie.

**What did Laban promise?** That after a week Jacob could have Rachel as well if he worked another seven years!

**How do you think Jacob would have felt?** Allow students to respond.

**How do you think Leah would have felt?** Allow students to respond.

**How about Rachel?** Allow students to answer.

Mention the mixed feelings of being married to two people and the problems it would cause, along with the fact Jacob felt tricked and did not love Leah and that Leah would have felt bad because she was not loved. Rachel would have been upset that she had to share her husband with her older sister.

Allow for questions, state that you will come back next week with answers if the questions are too big for you to deal with this week and address the person next week if appropriate. Then, move on to the next activity. Always have the children look to the Bible for their answers and help them find the verses they need.

### 4) Jacob in Haran - Break the Code Sheet

10-15 minutes

Hand out one sheet to each child along with pencils. Read the instructions aloud and help the children if needed get started filling in each blank with the correct letter from the alphabet. Read the sentences aloud as you go. When finished check as a group to make sure the phrases are completed correctly before moving on.

#### Answer:

**Pillar - Well - Laban - Rachel - Marry - Seven - Tricked - Leah**

### 5) Jacob Works as a Shepherd Color Page

10-15 minutes

Hand out one sheet with crayons to each child and allow them to color - you can discuss questions above at the same time if you have children who have trouble staying focused without something to keep their hands busy for question time.

When done coloring an option is to give cotton balls to each child along with glue sticks. Let the children rip the cotton balls apart and glue them to the sheep to make them fluffy!

Ask children to clean up before moving on to the next activity.

## 6) 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!

## 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) Jacob's Walk - To the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell" *Actions in blue!*

Jacob took a walk  
Jacob took a walk  
He walked and walked all by himself;  
Jacob took a walk.

*"Walk" fingers up the other side of your arm*

Jacob went to sleep,  
Jacob went to sleep;  
He put his head upon some stones;  
Jacob went to sleep.

*Fold hands together under head; close eyes*

Jacob had a dream.  
Jacob had a dream;  
The ladder stretched from earth to Heav'n;  
Jacob had a dream.

*Continue "sleeping"*

*Hold one hand low, the other up high.*

Some angels came to walk,  
Some angels came to walk;  
Up and down the angels went;  
Some angels came to walk.

*"Walk" fingers up and down.*

God himself was there,  
God himself was there;  
He talked to Jacob in his dream;  
God himself was there.

*Look up; point up with index finger*

Jacob soon woke up,  
Jacob soon woke up;  
Made a special place to pray;  
Jacob soon woke up.

*Open eyes; look around*

*Fold hands in prayer*

God always keeps his word,  
God always keeps his word;  
So Jacob worshiped only God;  
God always keeps his word.

*Form book with hands.*

The Lord was in that place,  
The Lord was in that place.  
And He is here with us today;  
The Lord was in that place.

Point out from self.

Point to self

## **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.

Pray that we will not trick others or cause them to do things that are wrong as what happened to Jacob. Pray that we will always turn to God and ask for His help and guidance when making decisions first! Pray that God will watch out for us and keep us from temptation and deliver us from evil. Pray that this week we will try to study God's word – the Bible every day.

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Thank you for serving Christ in this way!