

Lesson 9: The Life of Jacob and His Family

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) Study Genesis 35: The deaths of Rachel and Isaac.
- 2) See why you should follow the law that God has set out.
- 3) See the need to worship God alone.

Supplies:

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Questions and Color Page – one per child

Optional:

- Jacob's Family Word Search – one per child
- 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:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| - Mini Marshmallows | handful 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.

Today is the last day we will study the life of Jacob, next week we will study the life of his son Joseph.

What did we study last week about Jacob and his family? Jacob met his brother Esau, Esau forgave him and they both settled in the land in different locations. We also learned previously that Jacob had his name changed by God to Israel and Jacob wrestled with God and was blessed after.

2) Jacob Returns to Bethel

10-15 minutes

Have students turn in their Bibles to **Genesis Chapter 35**. Read it yourself to the students as there are a lot of names and places that may be difficult for students.

Once you are done move on to the next activity.

3) Questions and Color Page

10 minutes

Hand out one sheet per child along with pencil crayons. Read the instructions as a group and have students draw, color and write in Benjamin's name in the proper sections. When finished, allow the students to color the page.

Answers:

Benjamin (Genesis 35:18)



4) Optional – Jacob’s Family Word Search

10-15 minutes

Hand out one sheet to each child along with pencils. Read the instructions aloud along with the words in the list to ensure each child knows what the word is, and help the children if needed by going around the room to check. Have them put their name on the page when done and help clean up before moving onto the next activity. As they work go through each word on the word search and ask students how that word relates to the story they studied today.



5) Optional – Snack: Mini Marshmallow Altar

5 minutes

Hand out a handful of mini marshmallows to each child enough for each child to make an “altar” out of them. Also give each child a glass of water or juice. Explain that, **“When Jacob got to the land he was waiting for and God spoke to him, Jacob built an altar where that happened and Jacob called the place “Bethel” which means house of God. Let’s build our own pretend altars and then eat them. Today we don’t build altars to God for real – we worship God on Sunday’s with the church. We can worship God wherever we are with songs, praying, and studying the Bible but Sunday is the time God says we have to meet and worship to also take of the Lord’s Supper and to give to the contribution of the church once we are baptized. But back in the day of Jacob, an altar was a reminder of the commitment and promise made to God!** 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) **This is my Father’s World** (Should be in church song book)
- 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.

Pray that we will remember to turn to God when and if bad things happen in our lives. Pray that we will also give thanks to God, as Jacob did, when things are going well. Pray that we will help others in need and pray for those who are sick or weak and unable to attend this Sunday. Pray that they will return next week.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!