

Lesson 42

Jacob Steals the Blessing

Isaac is tricked into blessing Jacob instead of Esau.

Studying God's Word

Lesson Time

Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

Have the students assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs.

Bring your stuffed animal, Bible, Flip Chart, and any items you prepared for this lesson.

Prayer

This prayer time is designed to help the students begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to encourage them to pray.

We start our Bible lesson with prayer. Turn to the Prayer Page in the Flip Chart. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there.

Today let's say prayers of confession and tell God we're sorry for our sins.

I'll start. Dear God, I'm sorry for . . . (insert personal prayer here).

Pass a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—around the circle, giving all the students an opportunity to pray, or choose a volunteer to stand beside you and pray.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll answer our Bible Truth questions.

I love you prayers—Adoration
I'm sorry prayers—Confession
I'm thankful prayers—Thanksgiving
Please prayers—Supplication

Bible Truths

These four questions will be repeated each week to help the students learn foundational truths.

What word means God will always keep his promises? Faithful.
Can we trust God only sometimes or all the time? All the time.
What word means God knows and sees everything we do? Omniscient.
What did Jesus come to save us from? The punishment of sin.

Bible Pass Around

Before Bible Pass Around, place a sticky note in your Bible to mark the first passage to be read.

We are going to start out today by looking into God's Word, the Bible. Hold up Bible. God's Word is true, and we can trust what it says. But where should we look? One of you will help me with that. We're going to play Bible Pass Around. Whoever ends up with the Bible must hold it very carefully until it is time to look in it. When it is time to read, you can bring it to me, and we'll open it to see what we are going to talk about today! Here's what we're going to do. I want everyone to count with me up to the number choose a number. (You may also choose to recite the books of the Bible, sing one of the lesson songs, or recite the memory verse as you do this activity.) We'll start right here. Hand the Bible to the first student. As we say each number (or word), you must carefully pass the Bible to the person beside you. Remember, we don't want to drop it or tear it. Then when we get to the last number (or word), whoever has the Bible will hold on to it until we are ready for it in our lesson. Are you ready? Let's begin. Begin the lesson when finished with Bible Pass Around.

K-1st Lesson continues next.

SK-1 st Lesson

Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

Review

Refer to the Genesis . We learned how Abraham's son Isaac married Rebekah. And in the last lesson we talked about their two sons who were twins.

What were their names? Esau and Jacob.

Because Esau was the older twin, he had the birthright, which meant he would get twice as much of his father's money and lead the family one day after his father died.

Refer to Lesson 41 Flip Chart. But what did Esau sell his birthright for? A bowl of stew.

Esau was hungry and impatient and didn't care about his birthright, so he sold it to Jacob for a bowl of stew.

So Jacob got the birthright. But there was also a special blessing that was meant for the oldest son. And Jacob wanted his father, Isaac, to give that blessing to him instead of to Esau.

Jacob's name means deceiver. Do you remember what it means to deceive someone? Allow answers. To lie to or trick someone.

Jacob was tricky in getting the birthright from Esau for a bowl of stew. And today we'll see how Jacob deceived his own father to get

the special blessing. How did he do it? Well, it has something to do with his father's eyes.

Blind Guess Experiment

Bring in and keep hidden several small objects, such as a piece of fruit, furry mitten, stuffed animal, boiled egg, etc. Have the scarf available.

Our eyes are very useful, aren't they? We can see things all around us. But what about people who can't see—people who are blind? How do they get along without seeing things? Many times, if you can't see, you can use your sense of smell, taste, hearing, and touch to help you figure things out.

Let's do an experiment. I need a volunteer. Call up a volunteer and blindfold him with the scarf. I'm going to give you something, and I want you to figure out what it is without looking at it. You can sniff it, feel it, and shake it to see if it makes any noise, but you can't use your eyes. Give the student one of the objects you brought and see if he can guess what it is. You may want to give hints if necessary. If time allows, have two or three volunteers try.

It was a lot harder to figure out what you were holding when you couldn't see it, right? In our lesson today, Isaac was very old and his eyes had gone blind, so he couldn't see any more. And that's how Rebekah and Jacob were able to trick him. Let's find out how they did that.

Rebekah and Jacob Deceive Isaac

As you teach, refer often to the Lesson Flip Chart to keep the children engaged.

Show the Lesson Flip Chart (PDF). Many years had passed since Esau sold his birthright to Jacob for the stew. There came a day when Isaac, who was old and blind, wanted to give his special blessing to Esau before he died. Back in those days, a father would bless his children by telling them special things about what they would get after he died—like money, land, and animals.

Isaac told Esau to go hunting and bring back meat so he could cook Isaac's favorite meal, and then Isaac would bless him. So Esau left to go hunting.

Meanwhile, Rebekah heard that Isaac was going to bless Esau. But she wanted Jacob to get the special blessing. She knew God had promised that Jacob would lead the family. Instead of waiting for God to make that happen, she decided to do things her own way by deceiving Isaac.

Rebekah told Jacob her plan to trick Isaac. Since Isaac was so old that he couldn't see anymore, Jacob would pretend to be Esau and get the blessing. So Rebekah made one of Isaac's favorite meals and told Jacob to put on some of Esau's clothes.

But Jacob was worried. His skin was smooth, and Esau's skin was very hairy. What if Isaac reached out and touched Jacob? That would give it away. So Rebecca put goat skins on Jacob's hands and neck so that he would feel hairy, like Esau.

How many of you think their plan will work? Show of hands.

Let's find out. Who has the Bible? Please bring it up. Have the student bring up the Bible and open it to the sticky note.

Genesis 27:18-19

Let's read about it from Genesis 27. Read Genesis 27:18-19.

Jacob took the food his mother cooked to his father, but Isaac was blind and couldn't see who was there. Who did Jacob say he was? Esau.

Was Jacob telling the truth? No!

Reread the verses as necessary so the students can hear the answers straight from God's Word!

Isaac asked Jacob to come closer so he could feel his skin to see if he was hairy like Esau.

Refer to the Flip Chart. What did Jacob have on his skin to make him feel hairy? Goat skins.

Isaac was a little confused. He thought he heard Jacob's voice, but when he touched him, his skin was hairy like Esau's.

Isaac even smelled the clothes Jacob was wearing. But whose clothes did Jacob have on? Esau's.

Isaac finally gave Jacob the blessing. Was it right for Jacob to trick his father? No.

How did Jacob sin? He lied to deceive (trick) his father.

Jacob lied and tricked his blind, old father by making him think he was Esau.

Isaac gave some great promises in the blessing and said that his son would be master over his brother. This meant Jacob would lead the family someday, just like God told Rebekah before the twins were even born.

God's promise did happen. But Jacob and his mother should have waited for God instead of doing things their way. Now they had sinned. And when we sin, there will always be consequences—something bad will usually happen because of sin.

Esau Finds Out and Jacob Flees

Refer to the Flip Chart. While Jacob was being blessed, Esau was out hunting for meat to cook for his father. Just after Jacob left Isaac's tent, Esau came in with his food so he could get the blessing.

It didn't take long for Esau to figure out what Jacob had done. Isaac told Esau it was too late; he had already blessed Jacob and made him the leader over Esau.

How do you think Esau felt about that? Allow discussion.
Genesis 27:41

The Bible says Esau cried out with a great and bitter cry. He was really angry. Listen and tell me what Esau planned to do to Jacob. Read Genesis 27:41.

How did Esau feel about Jacob? He hated him.
And what did he say he was going to do to Jacob? Kill him.

Yes. Esau hated Jacob for taking his birthright and stealing his blessing. He was so mad that he said he would kill Jacob.

When Rebekah heard about this, she told Jacob to get out of there quickly and go to her brother's house far away where he would be safe from Esau's anger.

So let's think about the consequences of what Jacob and his mother had done. When they tried to do things their way, it led to sin, and they ended up making a mess of things, didn't they? Now Jacob's relationship with his brother was ruined, and Rebekah had to send Jacob away. She thought it would only be for a few days, but we'll see that she actually lost Jacob for many years.

We may not like to wait, just like Rebekah and Jacob, but it's always best to wait for God's timing. When we try to do things our own way, it can lead to sin.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game.

Pre-K Lesson

Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

Review

Refer to the Genesis . We learned how Abraham's son Isaac married Rebekah. And in the last lesson we talked about their two sons who were twins.

What were their names? Esau and Jacob.

Because Esau was the oldest son, he had the birthright, which meant he would get twice as much of his father's money and lead the family after his father died.

Refer to Lesson 41 Flip Chart. But what did Esau sell his birthright for? A bowl of stew.

Right. Esau was hungry and impatient and didn't care about his birthright, so he sold it to Jacob for a bowl of stew.

Now Jacob had the birthright. But there was also a special blessing that Jacob wanted his father, Isaac, to give to him instead of to Esau.

Today we'll see how Jacob tricked his own father to get that special blessing. How did he do it? It has something to do with his father's eyes.

Blind Guess Experiment

Bring in and keep hidden several small objects, such as a piece of fruit, furry mitten, stuffed animal, boiled egg, etc. Have the scarf available.

Our eyes are very useful, aren't they? We can see things all around us. But what about people who can't see—people who are blind? How do they get along without seeing things? Many times, if you can't see, you can use your sense of smell, taste, hearing, and touch to help figure things out.

Let's do an experiment. I need a helper. Call up a volunteer and blindfold him with the scarf. I'm going to give you something, and I want you to figure out what it is without looking at it. You can sniff it, feel it, and shake it to see if it makes any noise, but you can't use your eyes. Give the student one of the objects you brought and see if he can guess what it is. You may want to give hints if necessary. If time allows, have two or three volunteers try.

It was a lot harder to figure out what you were holding when you couldn't see it, right? In our lesson today, Isaac was very old and his eyes had gone blind, so he couldn't see any more. And that's how Rebekah and Jacob were able to trick him. Let's find out what they did.

Rebekah and Jacob Deceive Isaac

As you teach, refer often to the Lesson Flip Chart to keep the children engaged.

Show the Lesson Flip Chart (PDF). Many years after Esau sold his birthright to Jacob for the stew there came a day when Isaac, who was old and blind, wanted to give his special blessing to Esau. Back in those days, a father would bless his children by telling them the special things they would get after he died—like money, land, and animals.

Isaac told Esau to go hunting and bring back meat so he could cook Isaac's favorite meal for him, and then Isaac would bless him. So Esau left to go hunting.

But Rebekah heard that Isaac was going to bless Esau. She wanted Jacob to get the special blessing instead. She didn't want to wait for God to make that happen, so she decided to do things her own way by tricking her husband, Isaac.

Do you think that was right to trick Isaac? No.

Rebekah told Jacob her plan. Since Isaac was so old that he couldn't see anymore, Jacob would pretend to be Esau and get the blessing. So Rebekah cooked Isaac's favorite food and told Jacob to put on some of Esau's clothes.

But Jacob was worried. His skin was smooth, and Esau's skin was very hairy. What if Isaac reached out and touched Jacob? That would give it away. So Rebecca put goat skins on Jacob's hands and neck so he would feel hairy, like Esau.

How many of you think their plan will work? Show of hands.

Jacob went to Isaac's tent, but Isaac couldn't see who he was. Jacob lied and said he was Esau. Isaac wasn't sure, so he asked Jacob to come closer so he could feel his skin to see if he was hairy like Esau.

Refer to the Flip Chart. What did Jacob have on his skin to make him feel hairy? Goat skins, hair.

Isaac was a little confused. He didn't know which of his sons was standing there. He thought it sounded like Jacob's voice, but when he touched his arms, they felt hairy like Esau's. Isaac even smelled his clothes.

But whose clothes did Jacob have on? Esau's clothes.

Right. So he smelled like Esau, too. Isaac finally gave Jacob the blessing since he thought Jacob was Esau.

Their trick worked. Jacob got the blessing, and he would lead the family someday, just like God had said.

Do you think God wanted Jacob and his mother, Rebekah, to lie and trick Isaac? No.

God's promise did happen. But Jacob and his mother should have waited for God instead of doing things their way. Now they had sinned by lying to Isaac and tricking him. And when we sin, something bad will usually happen because of our sin. Let's find out what happened next.

Esau Finds Out and Jacob Flees

Refer to the Flip Chart. Jacob got the blessing while Esau was out hunting for meat to cook for his father. Right after Jacob left Isaac's tent, Esau came in with some food so he could get the blessing. But Isaac told Esau

it was too late; he had been tricked and had already blessed Jacob and made him the leader over Esau.

How do you think Esau felt about that? Allow guesses.

The Bible tells us how Esau felt. Who has the Bible? Please bring it up. Have the student bring up the Bible and open it to the sticky note.

Genesis 27:41

Reread the verses as necessary so the students can hear the answers straight from God's Word!

The Bible says Esau cried out with a great and bitter cry. He was really angry. Listen to Genesis 27:41 and tell me what Esau planned to do to Jacob. Read the verse.

How did Esau feel about Jacob? He hated him.

And what did he say he was going to do to Jacob? Kill him.

Esau hated Jacob for taking his birthright and stealing his blessing. He was so mad that he said he would kill Jacob.

When Rebekah heard about this, she told Jacob to get out of there quickly and go to her brother's house far away where he would be safe from Esau.

So let's think about the problems that Jacob and Rebekah's sin caused. When they tried to do things their way instead of waiting for God, it led to sin. Now Jacob's brother hated him, and Rebekah had to send Jacob away.

We may not like to wait, just like Rebekah and Jacob, but it's always best to wait for God's timing. When we try to do things our own way, it can lead to sin.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game below.

Lesson Review

We all learn best with review and repetition! We encourage you to play a lesson review game.

Story Time

Do you remember what happened in our last story? Allow discussion.

Justin and Jessie were looking forward to going to Papa's Pizza Palace. But they got impatient and hungry and didn't want to wait for pizza. Instead, they decided to get a snack for themselves—and ended up eating a whole box of snack cakes! Then they both had stomachaches and almost ruined the family's outing to the Pizza Palace. They were impatient and tried to do things themselves instead of waiting.

Let's find out what will happen in today's story. Read the story as you show the picture.

Do you think Jessie learned her lesson? She thought lying would be okay if she was doing it for a good reason. But is it ever alright to sin? No.

In our lesson today, Rebekah and Jacob didn't trust God to do what he promised. They decided to do things their own way, which led to lying and tricking Isaac. They may have thought they had a good reason, but their sin was not pleasing to God, and it led to even more trouble. God never wants us to sin. Instead, he wants us to obey him and trust that he will take care of the rest.

Memory Verse

We should all be hiding God's Word in our hearts! Use the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page as you play a memory verse game.

Explain the verse to your students as you encourage them to memorize it.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Song Time

Use the downloaded music to sing the songs.

You may want to add stomping, clapping, and musical instruments or make up hand motions to any of the songs!

Proverbs 3:5-6

Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. It's time for the memory verse song. Review the words and sing the song together once or twice.

Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets (PDF) and remind the students to practice the memory verse this week.

Sing other class favorites or songs from the Additional Songs list as time allows.

Group Prayer

Be sure to pray with your students before you dismiss them.

Thank God that we can trust him every day in everything.

Ask God to help us do things his way instead of our own way so we won't sin.

Song Sheet

Proverbs 3:5–6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5–6

Lesson Review

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Basket Toss

Students give the correct answer and toss the beanbags to see how many points they can collect for their team. Each basket has greater points.

Materials

Review Questions
Two beanbags
Three laundry baskets or boxes
Masking tape

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use masking tape to make a tossing line. Bring in three laundry baskets or boxes. Set the baskets in a line, making each one a little farther away from the tossing line. Label the baskets with 5, 10, and 25 points so the farther away it is the higher the score.

Divide the class into two or more teams depending on size. Have the teams line up at the tossing line. Take turns asking the first students in line from each team a review question. When a student answers correctly, he will have a chance to toss a beanbag into a basket then go to the end of the line. If the beanbag misses, there are no points scored. If someone does not answer correctly, he may ask his teammates for help. Keep track of the scores for each team on the board. Continue until all the questions have been answered. Repeat questions if necessary.

Board Game

Teams will answer questions and make their way to the finish on the Game Board.

Materials

Review Questions
Game Board (provided in the Teacher Kit)
Dice, numbered cards, or spinner
Buttons or other small items as game pieces for each team

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Divide the class into teams.

Team members will take turns answering the review questions. If they answer correctly, they will roll the dice, spin, or draw a numbered card and move that number of spaces on the Game Board. Follow the directions on the spaces to move ahead, fall back, or switch places with another team. If someone does not know or does not answer correctly, he may ask his teammates for help. Alternate between teams as long as time permits, repeating questions if necessary. The first team to make it all the way to the Finish wins.

Bible Baseball

Students will answer questions and run the bases!

Materials

Review Questions
Three chairs set out for bases
Optional: gift wrap tube and a large balloon

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Set out chairs as bases. Have the students line up by the home base area facing you (at the pitcher's mound). Each student up to "bat" will have a chance to answer a review question. If he can answer it correctly, let him run the bases. If he can't answer correctly, give the answer and ask him to go to the end of the line and try again.

You may want the students to sit on the chair at each base while they wait to run to the next base or have them run all the way around and return to the line. Repeat the questions until all the students have run around the bases.

For some added fun, you can use a gift wrap tube as a bat and toss a large balloon for students to hit after they answer each question.

Bowling

What do you do with extra water bottles and softballs? Go bowling, of course. Students will answer questions then bowl for points.

Materials

Review Questions
Six to ten empty water bottles
Softball or other small playground ball
Masking tape
Optional: dried corn or beans

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. If available, pour a small amount of dried corn or beans into the bottom of each water bottle (to add weight) and tighten the lid. Set out the bottles on one end of the room. Use masking tape to form a "lane" from the bottles to where the students will line up across the room.

Divide students into teams. Have students line up. Ask the first student a review question. If he answers correctly, let him roll the ball down the lane toward the bottles. Each bottle that is knocked down is worth 1 point. A strike (knocking down all the bottles) is worth 20 points. Take turns asking questions of each team. If a student gives an incorrect answer or does not know the answer, he can ask his teammates for help. Keep track of scores.

Goofy Golf

Hit the sock with the noodle? Teams must work together to answer the questions and putt to get a hole-in-one in this crazy golf game!

Materials

Review Questions
Swimming noodles or rolled up newspapers
Rolled up socks
Masking tape
Ten sheets of paper
Markers

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use the markers to number sheets of paper 1–10 (use more or less depending on class size and time). Tape down the sheets of paper around the room in a random pattern to form a golf course. You may want to add chairs as obstacles in the path.

Divide the class into teams. Give each team a rolled up sock and a swimming noodle. Ask the first student a review question from the lesson. If he answers correctly, allow him to use the noodle to drive the rolled up sock toward the first sheet of paper labeled #1. Continue with the next team. Take turns allowing team members to answer questions and continue putting the socks along the course to each hole, continuing from where the last teammate left

off. The sock must touch or roll over the sheet of paper to consider it in the hole. The first team to reach the tenth hole wins.

Toss for It

How many points? Toss for it! Students answer the questions and toss the beanbag to earn points for their team.

Materials

Review Questions

A deck of numbered cards, or numbers and “wild” written on index cards

One beanbag

Masking tape

Two baskets or containers for cards

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Place several rows of numbered cards facedown with a few inches between them to form a grid pattern (make sure to put several wild cards or Jokers down, too). Use the masking tape to make a tossing line several feet from the cards.

Divide students into teams and have them line up behind the tossing line. Ask the first student a review question. If he gives the correct answer, have him toss the beanbag onto a card. Turn the card over to reveal the points he receives for his team. Face cards or word cards are 10 points each. Wild or Jokers are also 10—plus another turn. All other cards are face value.

Have the student pick up his card and put it in the team’s basket to be counted at the end of the game. Next team’s turn. If a student gives an incorrect answer, he should go to the end of the line. Give the answer and repeat that question later. Continue taking turns until all the questions have been answered. Add more cards to the grid if necessary.

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