

Then What? Role Play

Materials

- ☐ Then What? Role Play Script (following pages)
- ☐ Optional: Props and/or simple costume pieces
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Chair
- ☐ Bowl and cup
- ☐ Robe
- ☐ Furry mittens

Instructions

Print one copy of the Then What? Role Play Script for your use. Choose four students to act out the roles: Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, and Esau. Have them wear costumes if available.

You or an assistant will narrate and guide the actors. As you narrate, ask the class each “Then What?” question and allow them to tell you what should happen next or what the actor should say according to the lesson. Then have the actors act it out and/or say the lines.

Suggested Discussion

- ?** Who told Rebekah that the younger son would be the leader someday? *God.*

God told her that. It was God’s idea. But Rebekah wanted to help God get it done.

- ?** Was it right for her to do things her own way? *No.*

- ?** Does God need our help? *No.*

Rebekah told Jacob to trick Isaac. Jacob was a full-grown man; he could have said no. But they both decided to deceive Isaac so Jacob would get the blessing. And they both sinned.

God still made His promise happen like He said He would. Jacob ended up with the blessing, but because of his sin, there were consequences. Now Jacob had ruined his relationship with his brother, and he would have to leave his home for a long, long time.

Then What? Role Play Script

Props: sunglasses and chair

Narrator: Isaac was very old, and his eyes had gone blind. He thought he was going to die soon, so he called for his oldest son, Esau, because he wanted to bless him.

Then what did Isaac tell Esau to do? *Go hunting and cook the meat for him.*

Isaac: *(Wearing sunglasses. Sits in a chair facing Esau.)* Esau, go hunting and make my favorite food for me to eat.

Narrator: Esau said he would go right away.

Esau: Yes, Father! I'll go right now. *(Esau leaves.)*

Then what did Rebekah and Jacob do? *They planned to trick Isaac to give Jacob the blessing.*

Rebekah: I will make the food, and you will take it to him, then he will bless you.

Then what did they put on Jacob's hands and neck so he would feel hairy like Esau? *Goat skins.*

Jacob: My hands will feel hairy like Esau's.

Narrator: So Rebekah cooked Isaac's favorite meat and put goat skins on Jacob's hands and neck. Jacob also wore some of Esau's clothes so he would even smell like Esau.

Props: furry mittens and robe for Jacob, bowl and cup for Jacob, sunglasses and chair for Isaac

Then what did Jacob do once he was ready? *He went to Isaac's tent.*

Narrator: Isaac could not see who came into his tent, so he asked who was there.

Isaac: Who are you?

Then who did Jacob say he was? *He said he was Esau.*

Jacob: I am Esau.

Narrator: Isaac wasn't sure if this was really Esau because his voice sounded like Jacob's.

Then what did Isaac do to see if it was really Esau? *He touched Jacob's hands.*

Isaac: Come here so I may touch you.

Jacob: *(Comes closer to Isaac)*

Narrator: Isaac felt Jacob's hands. They felt hairy because of the goat skins Jacob was wearing.

Isaac: *(Feels the mittens on Jacob's hands.)*

Print one copy for your use.

Then what did Isaac do with the food Jacob brought to him? *He ate it.*

Isaac: Give me the food.

Jacob: *(Hands Isaac the bowl and then the cup.)*

Isaac: *(Pretends to eat and drink. Hands the bowl and cup back to Jacob, who puts them aside.)*

Then what did Isaac do after he ate? *Blessed Jacob.*

Isaac: Come here so I can bless you.

Jacob: *(Kneels before Isaac.)*

Isaac: *(Places his hands on Jacob's head.)*

Narrator: After Jacob tricked Isaac and got the blessing, he left the tent.

Props: bowl and cup for Esau, sunglasses and chair for Isaac

Then what happened? Who came in with another bowl of food for Isaac? *Esau.*

Narrator: Isaac was already full from eating the food Jacob brought. But then he had another visitor.

Isaac: *(Wearing sunglasses. Sitting in his chair, patting his stomach as if full and satisfied.)* Mmm. That was very good.

Then what happened? Why did Esau come in to see Isaac? What did he want? *He wanted the blessing.*

Esau: *(Enters carrying bowl and cup.)* Father, eat this so you may bless me.

Narrator: Isaac was surprised to have someone else come in. He asked who it was.

Isaac: Who are you?

Esau: *(Places bowl and cup down.)* I am Esau.

Isaac: What?! I already blessed you.

Then what did they figure out? *Jacob had tricked them.*

Narrator: Esau was so angry at Jacob, he said he was going to kill him someday. So Jacob had to flee to his uncle's home far away.

Esau: I'm so mad at Jacob! *(Shows an angry face.)*

Jacob: Oh no! *(Runs away to the other side of the room.)*