

ABRAHAM

“Jacob and Esau”

Series Objective

Students will learn:

- We can trust God
- We should be patient as we wait for God to work out his plan in his time
- God is able to overcome any obstacles that seem to get in the way of his promises
- God has a plan and is in the process of carrying it out

Series Theme Verse:

“Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God...”

Deuteronomy 7:9

Lesson Objective:

Students will discover and understand:

- We should be thankful for the blessings God gives us
- Learn that God wants us to allow Him to change us

Lesson Passage: Genesis 25:19-34

Materials Needed: clear cup filled with water, food coloring, 2 buckets, large rocks, chairs, gummy bears

Lesson Plan:

The Story: Read Genesis 25:19-34

Talking Points:

- What was the problem that Isaac and Rebecca were having? (They could not have children)
- What did Isaac do? (Prayed to God on behalf of Rebecca)
- How did God respond? (She became pregnant with twins)
- What did the first child look like? (Red and hairy)
- What was unique about the second child? (He was holding onto the first child's heel)
- What did they name the first child? (Esau which means “Hairy”)
- What did they name the second child? (Jacob which means “He deceives”)
- Describe Esau in his older age. (Hunter, man of the country, dad's favorite, etc.)
- Describe Jacob in his older age. (Quiet, stayed home, cooker, mom's favorite)

- What situation happened between Esau and Jacob that showed Jacob was named correctly “The Deceiver”? (vs.29-34 - Esau came in from hunting and was hungry, Jacob would not feed him unless Esau gave Jacob his birthright)
- What is a birthright? (The oldest son would inherit everything when his father passed away)

The Story Retold:

- Get out water and food coloring. Let’s pretend that this cup of water is your life, and this food coloring is jealousy.
- Uncap the food coloring and hold it pretty high over the cup of water, but don’t squeeze any in. Now, this is what it’s like when there’s a little bit of jealousy in your life. Let’s say your brother and you both try out for the same baseball team and he was the one who got on the team. A little bit of jealousy is natural, right? So you just ignore it. Move the food coloring a little closer to the cup. You don’t pray about it, you don’t try to get over it, you just leave it there. And sure, you feel a little guilty about the way you’re thinking about your brother, but you convince yourself that being a little jealous is fine. Move the food coloring a little closer to the cup. But then, you notice how good at baseball your brother is and you start to get more jealous. Move the food coloring a little closer to the cup. Then, all of the sudden, everything about him makes you jealous—his laugh, his clothes, the way he has a lot of friends. You start to not appreciate your own things because his seem so much better. Move the food coloring a little closer to the cup. And then, you can’t help but look at everyone else around you and all of the things they have. You can’t help but compare yourself to everyone else and be jealous of them.
- Squeeze the food coloring into the cup.
- Now, can we separate that food coloring back into just one thing? Is it possible to move it to just one part of the cup? No! It’s in all of the water in the cup, because once it spreads, you can’t take it back. Jealousy never turns out good. It eats away at you. It harms you and your relationship. It steals your happiness, love, and peace.
- How does this apply to Jacob and Esau’s relationship?

The Story and Me

- At the end of the lesson give them a chance to say the verse from memory.
- If they get it right they receive 3 gummy bears.
- If they get it wrong, then they are out and receive 1 gummy bear.
- Here is where it gets fun. Once their turn is over proceed with the rest of the class. Once everyone has had a turn, then it is time for Round 2.
- In Round 2 have each kid that said the first verse correctly say the verse they learned in the last series. If they get this verse correct, offer them 4 gummy bears.
- All students can choose to eat their gummy bears or go double or nothing. If they choose double or nothing, have them stand behind the free-throw

line you have made on the floor. If they can shoot a wad of paper into the trash can and make it, they receive 8 bears. If they miss they lose all the bears they had received.