

LESSON 17

# Jacob's Lie

GENESIS 27



**BIBLE TRUTH**

THE PURPOSE OF GOD WILL STAND IN SPITE OF MAN'S SIN

LESSON SNAPSHOT

**1. OPENING ACTIVITY AND INTRODUCTION . . . . . 5 MIN**

**SUPPLIES:** Puppet

**2. BIBLE STORY . . . . . 10 MIN**

**SUPPLIES:** *The Gospel Story Bible* (story 17)

**3. BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION . . . . . 5 MIN**

Where Is Jesus?

**SUPPLIES:** Bible (ESV preferred); Review “Where Is Jesus?” to prepare

**4. SNACK QUESTIONS . . . . . 10 MIN**

**SUPPLIES:** Snack food/water

**5. SWORD BIBLE MEMORY . . . . . 5–10 MIN**

**6. ACTIVITIES AND OBJECT LESSONS (CHOOSE ONE OR MORE) 20–30 MIN**

Coloring Page 17

**SUPPLIES:** markers/crayons

Stealing the Birthright

Everybody Can Be Isaac

**SUPPLIES:** blindfolds; fake fur scented with cologne

**7. CLOSING PRAYER . . . . . 5 MIN**

**TOTAL 60–75 MIN**

THE LESSON

**OPENING ACTIVITY AND INTRODUCTION . . . . . 5 MIN**

In today's lesson the children will learn how Jacob and Rebekah worked together to deceive Isaac and steal Esau's blessing.

Open today's lesson with a short puppet show on lying.

Teacher: (*looking at puppet*) Hi, Puppet!

Puppet: Hi, how are you?

Teacher: I'm fine, how was your vacation?

Puppet: My vacation was fine. I had a great time.

Teacher: What did you do on vacation?

Puppet: I went fishing with my father and we caught some monster fish!

Teacher: It sounds like you caught some really big fish, but they were not really monster fish were they?

Puppet: Yes, they were. I caught one fish that was so big it couldn't fit in the boat.

Teacher: Did you get any pictures?

Puppet: (*getting a little nervous*) Well, no, we didn't get pictures, you see since it didn't fit in the boat, we had to let it go. Yes, that's it. We had to let it go.

Teacher: What kind of fish was it that it was so big?

Puppet: It was a whale!

Teacher: Puppet, everybody knows that whales don't live in lakes, they live in the ocean; and your vacation was in the mountains, not at the beach.

Puppet: Well, maybe it was a giant whale trout.

Teacher: There is no such thing as a giant whale trout! You are lying, aren't you?

Puppet: I guess so. I really only caught one little fish. I wanted you to think I was special.

Teacher: I do think you are special Puppet. You don't have to lie.

Puppet: I'm sorry, please forgive me.

Teacher: I forgive you Puppet.

Questions to ask:

- Why do we tell lies?  
(*to get something we want*)

That could be an object like a cookie. (A child could lie and tell his parents that he ate all of his supper when really he fed it to the dog.) We also tell lies to get someone to think the way we want them to. We may want them to like us or think we are special. That is what Puppet did in the skit.

- Is it easy to tell a lie to get something we want?  
*(yes, very easy)*
- How do we keep from lying?  
*(Ask God to change our heart so that we trust him for what we need or want instead of trying to get it ourselves by lying.)*
- What should we do if we do tell a lie?  
*(We should confess to the person we lied to and ask for their forgiveness.)*
- Tell the class that someone will tell a lie in today's Bible story, and tell them to listen close to pick it out when they hear it.

Pray for the remainder of the class time before moving forward with the lesson.

**BIBLE STORY . . . . . 10 MIN**

Read story 17, "Jacob's Lie," from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

**BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION . . . . . 5 MIN**

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion:

- What does it mean to tell a lie?  
*(We tell a lie when we do not tell the truth.)*
- What did Jacob do to deceive his father?  
*(Jacob pretended to be his brother by dressing up like his brother.)*
- What did Jacob get from his father?  
*(The special blessing intended for the oldest son.)*

**SNACK QUESTIONS . . . . . 10 MIN**

While the children are eating the snack, engage them by asking:

- **When are children today tempted to lie?**  
*(When they do something wrong and don't want to be punished. When they want something they are not permitted to have.)*
  
- **How many of you have ever lied?**  
*(Teachers should raise their hands to set the example. See if the children can remember a time when they were not truthful and would be willing to share it with the class.)*
  
- **Does God ever lie?**  
*(No, he is the God of truth [John 16:13 and Ephesians 5:9].)*

**Where Is Jesus?** \_\_\_\_\_

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

Passage: Acts 3:12–15

Our Bible story in Acts takes place long after Jacob's day, after Jesus rose from the dead and went back to heaven. The apostle Peter was sharing the gospel story (the story about Jesus) with a group of people. In the middle of his sharing, he gave God an interesting name. He called him "the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."

Did you notice that Peter didn't call him the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Esau? If you remember from our story, God chose Jacob rather than Esau to carry on the covenant promise he made to Abraham. In that covenant, or special promise, God said that Abraham's children would become a blessing to all nations. That promise was passed on to Isaac and then to Jacob.

Then one of Jacob's far-off grandchildren, Jesus, would become the blessing to all nations that God promised. When we trust in Jesus we are adopted into Abraham's family as one of God's children.

**SWORD BIBLE MEMORY . . . . . 5-10 MIN**

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

**ACTIVITIES AND OBJECT LESSONS. . . . . 20-30 MIN**

**Coloring Activity**

**SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ coloring page 17—one copy for each child

While the children are coloring, engage them by asking the following questions:

- What do you think Esau is going to think when he gets back and finds out his brother stole the blessing?  
*(He will be angry. [You may want to read Genesis 27:41.] )*
- Why did Jacob need to dress up to fool his father?  
*(Jacob did not look the same as his brother. He had smooth skin while his brother's skin was hairy.)*
- Who helped Jacob deceive his father?  
*(his mother)*

**Stealing the Birthright**

Act out the story of Jacob stealing his brother's birthright. Play the part of the narrator and read the Bible story. Have each of the children act out their parts. Have them mime them, not actually say any words.

Point out to the children that God can use even our sin to accomplish his plan but that lying is always wrong. Rebekah and Jacob disobeyed God by deceiving Isaac. Explain that if God wanted Isaac to bless Jacob instead of Esau, he could have made it happen without the need for sin.

Ask the children how God could have done it differently with no sin involved. (If the children can't think of a way ask them if they thought God could have sent an angel. See if they can remember any stories where God sent an angel. Then try using the actors again only this time add an angel who tells Isaac to bless his younger son, not the older one.) If the children come up with an idea different

from the one suggested above, act out their idea. If you have time you can act out more than one. Rebekah, for instance, could have reminded Isaac that God said the older would serve the younger. She could have asked him to bless Jacob instead of Esau.

Once again, help the children understand that God never wants us to sin, but he is so powerful that even our sins are used to accomplish his plan.

### Everybody Can Be Isaac

**SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ several blindfolds
- ✓ fur with cologne on it so that it has a distinct smell

Have one of the teachers or a student dress up like Esau with fur on their shoulders and arms. Have the class line up and each one put the blindfold on to experience what it would have been like to be Isaac. Ask them what would have fooled Isaac. They should mention the feel of the fur and the smell of his clothes as well as the food Rebekah prepared.

**PRAY** ..... **5 MIN**

Take time at the end of class to thank God for all you learned today. Include parts of your Bible lesson in your prayer as another way for the children to remember what today's lesson was about.

LESSON 17 - JACOB'S LIE

