

LESSON 19

# Jacob & Rachel

GENESIS 29:1 – 30:24



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**BIBLE TRUTH**

**WE REAP WHAT WE SOW**

LESSON SNAPSHOT

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

**SUPPLIES:** Rachel figure cut out from coloring page 19; an additional copy of coloring page 19; large Bible

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

**SUPPLIES:** *The Gospel Story Bible* (story 19)

**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 19

**SUPPLIES:** markers/crayons

The Blessing of Obedience

Rolling the Stone

**SUPPLIES:** sheet filled with crumpled newspaper; tape

**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 God gave Jacob a wife.

Get two copies of the coloring sheet for today’s lesson with a picture of Rachel on it. Cut out Rachel from the one coloring sheet to hide, and use the second sheet to show the children what she looks like. Hide the picture in a large Bible at Genesis 29. Close the Bible making sure the picture is not sticking out anywhere, and place the Bible on an obvious table.

Show the picture to the class and explain that a drawing of Rachel is hidden somewhere in the room and you want to see who can find it. Show them the picture and then let them look for the cutout. It is very likely they will soon tell you that they cannot find it.

Ask them why they are having such a difficult time finding her? Then talk to them about how sometimes it is difficult to find what we want to find and that God himself needs to reveal it to us. Pick up the Bible and tell the children that you want them to look one more time. Open the Bible to the proper place and set it down on the table open to the drawing. Discuss why it was so easy this time. They should say because you opened the Bible to reveal the hidden drawing of Rachel. Tell them that if we follow God and his Word, God will give us everything we need. Read Matthew 6:31–33, which talks about God providing everything that we need when we follow him.

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

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

Read story 19, “Jacob and Rachel,” 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 was the name of the woman Jacob wanted to marry?  
(Rachel)

- How long did Laban say Jacob had to work for Rachel's hand in marriage?  
*(seven years)*
- What did Laban do to Jacob?  
*(cheated him by making him marry Leah first and then making him agree to work seven more years in order to marry Rachel)*

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

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

- What did Jacob do when he saw Rachel?  
*(He moved a heavy stone that usually took more than one man!)*
- Did Jacob honor Rachel's parents?  
*(Yes, he agreed to work for seven years for Rachel.)*
- How long a time is seven years?  
*(Have them consider how old they are and relate their age to seven years. You can also speak to them in terms of seasons, seven winters, seven Christmas vacations, etc.)*

**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 19—one copy for each child

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

- What do you think Jacob thought when he first saw Rachel?  
*(He thought she was beautiful.)*

## 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: Genesis 29:21–35

Remember how Jacob dressed up like Esau, lied to his dad, and stole his brother's blessing? In our story today, Jacob finds out what it feels like to be tricked.

Instead of keeping his promise to give his younger daughter, Rachel, to Jacob, Laban dresses his older daughter, Leah, as the bride. Jacob doesn't discover the switch until after he is already married to Leah.

When Jacob discovers the truth, he complains to Laban, who quickly offers to give Rachel to Jacob if he works for him for another seven years. Jacob agrees and begins to work to take Rachel as a second wife. When God sees that Leah is not loved, he blesses her with ten sons.

That is where we find our connection to Jesus in today's story. One of Leah's boys, named Judah, grew up to become the far-off grandfather of Jesus. His people would be called the tribe of Judah.

- Who do you think was in control, bringing Rachel to the well at just the same time Jacob was there?  
*(God was the one who worked this out for Jacob's good.)*
- How do we know that Rachel was a faithful daughter?  
*(She was serving her father by watering his sheep.)*

### The Blessing of Obedience

Jacob's father gave him instructions on whom he should marry (Genesis 28:6–7). Explain to the children that God commands children to obey their parents (Deuteronomy 5:16). If children obey their parents, they will receive a blessing.

- What was the blessing Jacob received for honoring his father’s wishes not to marry a Canaanite woman?

*(Jacob was blessed with a beautiful wife, Rachel.)*

- What were the bad consequences Jacob received for deceiving his father?

*(The Lord allowed Jacob to be fooled just as he fooled his father. Jacob dressed up like his brother as a lie. Similarly Leah dressed up as her sister Rachel to fool Jacob. So Jacob learned how it feels to be lied to. He had to work an additional seven years for Rachel.)*

**Rolling the Stone**

**SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ sheet filled with crumpled newspaper
- ✓ tape

Act out the story. Make a large stone by crumpling up newspaper to fill an old white sheet. Tape up the bottom to make a large rock. Place the “rock” in the middle of the room. Have some of the class be shepherds waiting for additional help to move the stone. (At some point early on they can pretend to try and move it without success.) Have one child play the part of Jacob and another, the part of Rachel. The rest of the class can pretend to be Rachel’s flocks. When Jacob sees Rachel coming have him walk over and greet her (skip the kiss) and single-handedly move the stone. Then have the children sit down and ask them the following questions:

- How was Jacob able to roll such a large stone out of the way?

*(God helped him.)*

- Can anyone remember another story where God made someone very strong?

*(David killed a lion, a bear, and Goliath. Samson was very strong in killing the Philistines.)*

**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 19 - JACOB AND RACHEL

