

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 REVIEW** **5 MIN**
Use last week’s lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.
2. **BIBLE STORY** **10 MIN**
Read Genesis 27:5–35 from the Scriptures or read story 17, “Jacob’s Lie,” from *The Gospel Story Bible*.
3. **OBJECT LESSON 1** **10 MIN**
List the Sins
4. **TEACHING/DISCUSSION** **10 MIN**
5. **OBJECT LESSON 2** **10 MIN**
Chocolate Broccoli
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ milk chocolate—one large bar (8 oz. or larger)
 - ✓ broccoli stems
6. **SWORD BIBLE MEMORY** **5 MIN**
7. **ACTIVITY TIME** **25 MIN**
Jacob’s Disguise
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ crayons, colored pencils, and paper
 - ✓ white glue
 - ✓ brown yarn
 - ✓ scissors
8. **CLOSING PRAYER** **5 MIN**
9. **BONUS OBJECT LESSON** **10 MIN**
Pretend You Are Jacob
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ two yards of fake fur from a craft or fabric store cut up into wide strips to be used as a disguise to cover Jacob’s arms and neck
 - ✓ masking tape, used to hold the fur on
 - ✓ two yards of burlap for an Esau costume (cut a whole in the center to create a poncho you can slip over a child’s head)

TOTAL 90 MIN

PREPARING TO TEACH

TEACHING POINTS

Isaac desires to bless Esau—Many years before this took place, God had told Rebekah that Esau would not get the birthright. Isaac must have known this. He probably also knew that Esau had sold his birthright to Jacob. But Isaac wants to bless Esau as the firstborn son anyway. In Genesis 25:28 we are told that Isaac loved Esau because Esau was a hunter and provided good food.

Rebekah directs Jacob to deceive his father—Rebekah loved Jacob more than Esau. Here, Rebekah wants Jacob to get his father’s blessing instead of Esau. So she plans for Jacob to deceive Isaac, and she helps him do it.

Rebekah could have chosen simply to trust God’s promise. She missed an opportunity to watch God work out his plan. In the end, God worked out everything according to his plan, but he could have done that without Rebekah’s deception. But God uses anything—even lies and deception—to accomplish his plan.

Isaac’s blessing is given to Jacob—Jacob gets Esau’s blessing from Isaac. When Esau then arrives for his blessing, both he and Isaac are very upset at what has happened. But even though Esau begs for another blessing, Isaac does not even try to give him one. Perhaps Isaac realizes that God’s promise that “the older will serve the younger” has been fulfilled and that there is no use fighting against the purpose of God.

WHERE IS JESUS? _____

How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption?

Read 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.

THE LESSON

OPENING REVIEW 5 MIN

Use last week's lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.

BIBLE STORY 10 MIN

Read Genesis 27:5–35 from the Scriptures or read story 17, "Jacob's Lie," from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

OBJECT LESSON 1 10 MIN

List the Sins

Have the children list the sins of the individuals in the story.

Jacob deceived his father and then lied to him.

Rebekah conspired to deceive her husband and led her son to do evil.

Isaac loved his son Esau more than his son Jacob because he loved the taste of wild game (see Genesis 25:28). This favoritism led Isaac to try to secretly confirm the blessing on his oldest son when God had told his wife the older would serve the younger.

■ What should they each have done differently?

(They each should have trusted the Lord to work all things out for good.)

TEACHING/DISCUSSION 10 MIN

Using the teaching points, teach through the lesson for today.

OBJECT LESSON 2 10 MIN

Chocolate Broccoli

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ milk chocolate—one large bar (8 oz. or larger)
- ✓ broccoli stems

Before class, cut the broccoli stems up into small pieces and coat the pieces with melted chocolate. Make sure that no broccoli is showing and that the pieces do not look like broccoli. (Melt the chocolate carefully using a double boiler or microwave oven to avoid burning.) Place the chocolate broccoli on a piece of foil or wax paper and refrigerate until set.

Share the Bible memory verse for this week with your class and tell them that you are going to give them five minutes to memorize their verses and that you will give chocolate to those you call on for each verse they recite correctly. (Pick a verse to memorize if they're not using the Sword verses.)

Ask for volunteers, and after testing a number of them, offer them the chocolate. Once several of them have the chocolate in their mouths ask the rest of the class if there are any other volunteers to try for a piece of chocolate covered broccoli, revealing the true identity of the candy.

Then ask the class the following questions:

- What was deceptive about the way I ran the Bible memory activity?
(You didn't tell us that it was chocolate broccoli.)

- Was there a greater purpose that I fulfilled by the exercise?
(Yes, you got us excited about trying to memorize our verses.)

- How was my deception like Jacob's?
(You disguised the broccoli to fool us into thinking it was something else. Jacob disguised himself using fur to make his father think he was someone else.)

- I worked out the activity in order to accomplish my plan. How did God work out the events of our story to accomplish his plan?
(God used Jacob's deception to ensure that his purpose in election would stand; that is, the older would serve the younger.)

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY 5 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.

ACTIVITY TIME 25 MIN

Jacob's Disguise

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ crayons, colored pencils, and paper
- ✓ white glue
- ✓ brown yarn
- ✓ scissors

Have the children draw a picture of Jacob dressed up like his brother. Use the scissors to cut up the yarn into small pieces and glue them to Jacob's arms to represent the animal skins he used as a disguise. Then use this to talk about how he deceived his father.

CLOSING PRAYER 5 MIN

Pick several children to pray prayers based on the day's scripture passages.

BONUS OBJECT LESSON **10 MIN**

Pretend You Are Jacob

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ two yards of fake fur from a craft or fabric store cut up into wide strips to be used as a disguise to cover Jacob's arms and neck
- ✓ masking tape, used to hold the fur on
- ✓ two yards of burlap for an Esau costume (cut a hole in the center to create a poncho you can slip over a child's head)

Pick children to play the roles of Jacob, Esau, Isaac, and Rebekah.

Have an adult volunteer help the children mime the actions of the story as you read it aloud.

Pass extra fake fur around to the class so they can feel what Isaac felt. Then ask the class if they can tell you what Jacob could have done to trust God rather than lie. Explain to the class that God could have made sure Jacob was blessed any number of ways. Jacob did not have to lie to accomplish God's plan, but God used Jacob's sin to accomplish his plan.

LESSON 17 - JACOB'S LIE

