

JACOB AND RACHEL

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: GENESIS 29:10-30:22



The STORY

Read "Jacob's Marriage" from The Children's Bible in 365 Stories (page 24).

Please note: The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.

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

- What was the name of the woman Jacob wanted for his wife? (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 work seven more years in order to marry Rachel.)

CRAFT QUESTIONS

Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: **Jacob and Rachel at the well with their sheep.** Engage the children by asking:

- What do you think Jacob thought when he first saw Rachel? (He thought she was beautiful.)
- Who do you think was in control bringing Rachel to the well at just the same time Jacob was there? (God was the one that 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.)

JACOB AND RACHEL

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: GENESIS 29:10-30:22

SNACK QUESTIONS

While the children are eating the snack, engage the children 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 of 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.)

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.

Rachel's father Laban tricked Jacob into marrying his daughter Leah. Leah believed in the promise of God and cried out to the Lord because Jacob loves Rachel more than Leah. The Lord answered her prayer and because of her faith allowed Jesus to come through one of her sons, Judah.

Rachel went on to bear six of Jacob's twelve sons who would become the twelve tribes of Israel. Again, God rewards those who call out to him in faith.

But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel. (Matthew 2:6)

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

BE A DOER OF THE WORD

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.

