



Preschool Ministry Curriculum for  
*July 17, 2016*

Dear Teacher,

This week we continue our summer curriculum, which is following the theme and preaching from the Sanctuary service. Just to note, we are a few weeks ahead of the Sanctuary service in case there is any confusion. This summer we will look back at most of the characters we studied this past year. The point of each lesson will center on the journey each person was on and how they ultimately looked to Jesus “as the author and perfecter of our faith.”

This week we learn of the Jacob and Esau saga and their incredibly dysfunctional home environment. This week we see deceitfulness in regards to all the characters involved (Isaac & Rebekah, Jacob & Esau). Jacob receives the totality of the blessing promised to Abraham, Isaac and now himself. Esau receives much, much less. The lesson shows when disobedience to God’s promises and commands persists, sin continues and the results are disastrous.

We encourage all classrooms to engage with the story from the options provided in class. Teachers, tell the story using any of the provided helps (Vos, Jesus Story Book Bible, Gospel Story Book Bible or printed Handout). If you would like, read the selected Scripture passages aloud in class, discuss or explain what the passages mean, and use the questions below to help guide the discussion. Also, use time in class to teach the Scripture Memory and the Catechism Questions.

**Lesson:** The Journey: Jacob

**Lesson Objective:** To communicate to children that God’s promises require faith especially since God’s promises do not happen immediately.

**Scripture:** Hebrews 11:20; Genesis 27:1-45.

**Story:** Vos Children’s Bible, Pages 33-34; Gospel Story Book Bible, Pages 34-35; The Beginner’s Bible, Pages 60-63.

**Teaching Points:**

- To believe that God’s promises will come true is called faith.
- God, in his own timing, gives according to His plan and will. God’s sovereignty cannot be disrupted by our best attempts.
- Isaac attempts to secretly bless Esau. Rebekah, with Jacob, creates a plan for Jacob to get the blessing instead. God had promised Jacob the blessing before he and Esau were ever born.
- Jacob deceives his father by acting, smelling, and appearing to the touch like Esau.
- Isaac gives an abundant blessing to Jacob, but Esau receives only a curse.
- Rebekah dictates the plan for Jacob to steal the blessing from Esau; Jacob willingly follows along.
- To receive the blessing from Isaac, who received it from his father Abraham, meant that Jacob received all the promises God gave to Abraham. Those promises included God’s presence with Abraham’s descendants, land, future royalty to be part of the family, a strong army, and to rule over others.

## Preschool Ministry – Morning Overview

For the Sunday Schedule, please see “Sunday Schedule for Preschool” found in Handbook on the teacher’s table.

### First Hour

#### **Cherub Church**

- Kindergarten/5’s – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom’s: 162, 163, 121, 123, 124)
- 3’s/4’s – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom’s: 169, 168, 167, 166, 165, 164)

*Craft:* Jacob’s Deception

*Supplies:* Fabric piece, rubber band

*Instructions:* Place fabric piece on child’s arm, hold in place with rubber band, encourage children to feel the difference between fabric and their arm.



#### **Snack**

### Second Hour

*Craft:* Esau’s Stew

*Supplies:* Paper cup, plastic spoon, animal crackers, Froot Loops, crayons/markers

*Instructions:* Have children decorate cup, add 2 scoops (use small plastic cup) of animal crackers and 1 scoop of Froot Loops, stir with spoon.



**Story:** The Journey: Issac

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the Transition Question: Last week we talked about Isaac; what do you recall from our story? This week we learn about Isaac’s sons, Jacob and Esau. Today we learn about Jacob deceiving Esau to get the blessing from his father Isaac. This meant Jacob lied and stole from his brother Esau.
3. **TELL** the Story. When applicable or desired, use the Vos Children’s Bible, the Jesus StoryBook Bible, the Beginner’s Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

#### **Singing**

#### **Scripture Memory (Hebrews 12:1-2)**

#### **Catechism Questions (1-10)**

#### **Optional Activities**

### Scripture

#### **Hebrews 11:20**

It was by faith that Isaac blessed the future of Jacob and Esau.

### Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- How did Jacob trick his father Isaac?
- Who got the special blessing?
- Who has a special plan for each of our lives?

#### Questions for Older Children:

- What bad thing did Isaac do?
- What bad thing did Rebekah do?
- What bad thing did Esau do?
- What bad thing did Jacob do?
- What can we learn from this story?

#### Scripture Memory for Summer:

##### *2 and 3 year olds:*

“Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus.” Hebrews 12:1-2

##### *4 and 5 year olds:*

“Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.” Hebrews 12:1-2

#### Catechism Questions:

- Question 1 – Who made you? *God*
- Question 2 – What else did God make? *God made all things.*
- Question 3 – Why did God make you and all things? *For his own glory.*
- Question 4 – How can you glorify God? *By loving him and doing what he commands.*
- Question 5 – Why are you to glorify God? *Because he made me and takes care of me.*
- Question 6 – Is there more than one true God? *No. There is only one true God.*
- Question 7 – In how many persons does this One God exist? *In three persons.*
- Question 8 – Who are they? *Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*
- Question 9 – What is God? *God is a Spirit and does not have a body like men.*
- Question 10 – Where is God? *God is everywhere.*

#### Story

##### **The Journey**

Let us continue on our journey together. Remember, we won't actually go to a far land or country. And we won't have to pack up our suitcases or food, get in a car or plane, or travel to some place across the world. Nope, we will stay right here! This journey is special. This journey takes us into the Old Testament and we get to see how people trusted in Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Today in our journey, we learn about Isaac and his two sons, Jacob and Esau. Jacob and Esau were like any two siblings who fought a lot. There was jealousy, lying and stealing between the two boys. We see all of this because Jacob, Rebekah and even Isaac do not trust God's promises. Let's find out more about our story...

##### **Introduction**

The Bible says, right here in Genesis 27, that Isaac was old and his eyes were so weak that he could no longer see. Cover your eyes with your hands. It would be hard if everything looked black like that wouldn't it? Today we have glasses that can help older people see, but not in Isaac's day.

Remember Esau was Isaac and Rebekah's oldest son. He's the one who was supposed to get the special blessing. But who remembers what Esau had done? He had sold his special blessing called a birthright to his younger brother named Jacob. And what did he sell it for? He sold it for a bowl of stew. Esau really had not cared about the blessing. He liked the outdoors, remember; and the things of God, well, they just weren't too important to Esau. But Jacob was different, very different. Jacob wanted that birthright. He wanted the special blessing and it was good that Jacob wanted it. But Jacob did a bad thing. He was not willing to wait for God to give it to him. Jacob decided he would do whatever it took to get the blessing. Listen to hear what the Bible says happened.

### **Isaac's Plan**

One day, old Isaac called Esau, "My son", Isaac said. "Here I am," Esau answered. "Now you know I'm getting old. Well I'm so old I may even die soon. Now, get your weapons – your bow and arrow – and go out to the field and hunt some wild animal, bring it home and cook it. I want you to fix the kind of tasty food I like. Bring it to me, I'll eat it and then I will give you my blessing.

Uh oh! What was wrong with this? What had Esau done with his birthright? He had given the blessing to his brother Jacob for the bowl of stew. But Isaac had always wanted his oldest son Esau to receive the blessing. And now Esau decided that he wanted it after all and since his father Isaac wanted to give it to him, Esau would take it. So off Esau went to hunt for his dad's dinner.

### **Rebekah's Plan**

Esau didn't know it and father Isaac didn't either, but the mom, Rebekah, was listening to Isaac ask Esau to cook him some dinner. She had heard everything. But Rebekah didn't want Esau to get the blessing. Rebekah wanted Jacob to get it. She knew that it was God's plan all along that Jacob would be the leader of the family.

Rebekah should have trusted that God would make that happen in the way that He wanted it to happen. But instead, Rebekah thought of a plan, a trick to play on old blind Isaac so that Jacob would get the blessing instead of Esau. This was a very bad thing to do. It is a sin to lie or trick people. This is what Rebekah did; she told Jacob, "Look, I heard your father say to your brother Esau, "hunt for an animal and then cook some tasty food for me to eat, so that I may give you my blessing in the presence of the Lord before I die."

Now, my son, listen carefully and do what I tell you. Go out to the flock of goats and bring me two of the very best. I can prepare some tasty food for your father, just the way he likes it. Then take it to your father to eat, and he will give you his blessing before he dies. He will give it to you instead of Esau." Jacob said to his mother Rebekah, "But my brother Esau is a hairy man (remember Esau had hair all over his body), and I'm a man with smooth skin. What if my father touches me? I would appear to be tricking him and he won't bless me then!" But Rebekah answered him, "My son, just do as I say, go and find the goat for me."

### **Deception**

So Jacob went and found the best goats he could find and brought them to his mother, and she cooked them and prepared some very tasty food, just the way his father liked it. Then Rebekah looked around the house and found some of Esau's clothes and she put them on Jacob. She also covered his hands and the smooth part of his neck with the hair from the goat. And then Rebekah handed Jacob the tasty food that she had made and some bread and Jacob went in to his father.

"My father," Jacob said. "Yes, my son," Isaac answered. "Who is it?" (look around like you can't see). Jacob answered, "I am Esau, your oldest son. (Jacob was telling a lie!) I have done as you told me. Please sit up and eat some of the good food I have cooked for you and then give me your blessing." Isaac thought it was Esau and he asked, "How did you find the goats so quickly and cook the food, my son." "The Lord your God helped me," Jacob was lying again.

Then Isaac said to Jacob, “Come near so I can touch you, my son, to know whether you really are my son Esau or not.” Jacob moved closer to his father Isaac, and Isaac touched him, “Your voice sounds like Jacob, but your hands are the hands of Esau. (They felt hairy from the goatskin, remember?) Are you really my son Esau?” “I am” Jacob said, lying again.

Then Isaac said, “bring me some good food so I can eat it and I will give you my blessing.” So Jacob brought it to him and he ate. Then Isaac said to Jacob, “Come here, my son, and kiss me”. So Jacob went to him and kissed him. When Isaac smelled his clothes, Esau’s clothes that is, he gave him the special blessing. As soon as Isaac finished speaking Jacob left quickly.

### **Discovery**

Jacob had just left the room when Esau came home from hunting. He too had prepared some tasty food and brought it to his father. Then he said, “My father, sit up and eat some of my food, so that you may give me your blessing.” Isaac asked, “Who are you?” “I am your son,” he answered, “your oldest son, Esau.”

The Bible says when Isaac heard those words he started to tremble and said, “Who was it, then, that hunted game and brought it to me? I ate it just before you came and I blessed him – and now indeed he will be blessed. I have given him the blessing.”

When Esau heard his father’s words, he burst out with a loud and bitter cry and said to his father, “Bless me, me too, my father!” But Isaac said, “Your brother came and tricked me and took your blessing.”

Esau answered his father, “Jacob deceived me two times. He took my birthright, and now he’s taken my blessing?” Then he asked, “Haven’t you any blessing for me father?” And Esau started to cry. But he wasn’t crying because he loved God or because the birthright and the blessing meant so much to him. (Remember, he had traded it for stew!) Instead Esau was crying because he had been tricked and he didn’t like it. Isaac did give Esau a blessing, but it was very different than the one he had given Jacob. Jacob had received the best blessing.

### **Closing**

This whole story is kind of sad:

- Esau didn’t care about the special blessing.
- Jacob didn’t wait for God, but tricked and lied to get what he wanted.
- Isaac knew the blessing belonged to Jacob but planned to give it to Esau anyway.
- And Rebekah lied and tricked her husband Isaac.

It was God’s desire for Jacob to have the birthright and the special blessing and that’s just what happened. He had a special plan for Jacob and Esau and nothing would change His plan.

### **True Faith**

Even though Isaac had given everything to Jacob in the blessing, he still knew that God would care for Esau. God had promised to take care and provide for all of Abraham’s children, and that included Esau. Despite the stealing, lying and sin throughout the story, God’s promises still came true. By faith Isaac believed that God would care for both his sons, and in believing this he blessed both of his sons, Jacob and Esau.