

(7) Isaac Marries Rebekah, Birth of Jacob & Esau, Esau Sells Birthright

Genesis 24-25 Kindergarten & 1st Grade

WARM-UP: (10 minutes)

As kids are arriving, some just before class starts and some right after, play a game of "Would You Rather?" They LOVE this game! Give kids two choices at a time and see what they'd choose. Example: Would you rather ride in a plane or on a boat? Would you rather have a pet cat or dog? Would you rather come face to face with a lion or a bear? After you've given a few choices, they like to give choices too. I let them take turns. This is to prepare them for class. Esau would rather have a bowl of stew right now than his birthright.

PRAYER: (5 minutes)

Help kids learn the value in talking to God. Ask for prayer requests. Write on the white board "Thank You" and "Please Help" – then, let the kids share their "thank you" and "please help" requests. Write them on the white board.

ASK KIDS:

- How God talks to us? (Through the bible and answering our prayers)
- How do we talk to God? (Prayer)

Remind them that we can't have a relationship with anyone, our friends or even parents, if we don't talk to them. It's important that we talk to God. He made us and no one can do the things he can, not even our moms and dads.

Lead kids in prayer.

BIBLE LESSON & ACTIVITY: (25 minutes)

Last week we learned about Abraham and Sarah. They had a baby boy when they were very old and named him Isaac. God promised Abraham he'd make him the father of many nations.

Pass out Hands On Play Item (Play-doh, Silly Putty, Galaxy Slime, Kinetic Sand)

- 1. We are still in the book of Genesis. Make an "O" if you think it is in the Old Testament and an "N" if you think it is in the New Testament. It's in the OLD! And what does Genesis mean? Beginning.
- 2. **Make a hand or your handprint.** Abraham is very old and God had blessed him. Abraham had put his best servant in charge of <u>everything</u> he had. He told his servant, "Put your hand under my thigh." What? That's weird! Not back then. In our culture, taking an oath usually involves raising the right hand or placing a hand on a Bible. In ancient Hebrew culture, it was a little different. Abraham was making his servant promise him something. Abraham said, "I'm living among the people of Canaan. But I want you to promise me that you won't get a wife for my son from *their* daughters. Instead, go to my country and to my own relatives. Get a wife for my son Isaac from there."

- 3. **Make angel wings.** The servant asked Abraham, "What if the woman doesn't want to come back with me to this land? Then should I take your son back to the country you came from?" Abram said, "Make sure you DON'T take my son back there! The LORD will send his angel ahead of you. So you will be able to get a wife for my son from there."
- 4. **Make a big jar of water.** So the servant went to Abram's country. When he got there, he made his camels lie down and prayed, "Make me successful today. I'm standing beside this spring. The daughters of the people who live in the town are coming out here to get water. I will speak to a young woman. I'll say to her, 'Please lower your jar so I can have a drink.' Suppose she says, 'Have a drink of water, and I'll get some for your camels too.' Then let her be the one you have chosen for your servant Isaac. That's how I'll know you have been kind to my master."
- 5. **Make a camel with one hump or two.** How will he know which lady is the right one? She will be the one that gives him a drink of water and gets some for his camels too. Before he even finished praying, Rebekah came out carrying a jar of water on her shoulders. She was beautiful. The servant hurried to meet her and asked for a little water. Guess what happened...
- 6. **Make a moon for nighttime.** She gave him a drink and then... she said, "I'll get water for your camels too until they've had enough to drink." He watched closely. Then he asked if there was a place for them to spend the night. She told him that they had plenty of straw to feed the camels AND a place to spend the night! The servant worshiped God. Laban allowed his sister to go and she married Isaac. God was with him.
- 7. **Make the number 2 or make two babies.** Unfortunately, Rebekah couldn't have children so Isaac prayed and God answered his prayer. Rebekah became pregnant! Not only was she going to have a baby; she was going to have twins! The babies struggled with each other inside her. Rebekah wondered why? God told her it was because two nations were in her body and one would be stronger than the other.
- 8. **Make an E and a J.** When Rebekah had her babies, the first one was red and his whole body was covered in hair so they named him Esau. Then his brother came out holding onto Esau's heel. The named him Jacob. What were the baby's names? Esau and Jacob. That's why we made an E for Esau and a J for Jacob.
- 9. **Make a bowl of soup.** The boys grew up and Esau became a hunter. Jacob liked staying home with his mom and was her favorite. One day Jacob was cooking stew and Esau came in very hungry. Jacob wouldn't let him have any food until he gave him the rights that went to the oldest child. Silly Esau! He did this all for a bowl of stew! **Next week will learn about more trouble between the brothers!**

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE & SONGS: (5 minutes)

Sing the Old Testament books song and then the New Testament books songs.

Game: Bible Sides. There is a side marked "NEW" and a side of the room marked "OLD"

Draw a book out of the "hat" and tell the kids. Now, they must decide if that book is in the Old or New Testament and follow your directions. You may say have them spin, jump, skip, wiggle their noses, etc. Get creative! They follow this instruction to the applicable side of the room. If the book you named in the Old Testament, they spin, jump, skip or wiggle their nose to that side of the room. If in the New, go to that side. After everyone chooses, give the correct answer and draw another card (They do not change sides until you draw the next card). Repeat until class time is up.



(7) Isaac Marries Rebekah, Birth of Jacob & Esau, Esau Sells Birthright

Genesis 24-25 2nd & 3rd Grade

WARM-UP: (10 minutes)

As kids are arriving, some just before class starts and some right after, play a game of "Would You Rather?" They LOVE this game! Give kids two choices at a time and see what they'd choose. Example: Would you rather ride in a plane or on a boat? Would you rather have a pet cat or dog? Would you rather come face to face with a lion or a bear? After you've given a few choices, they like to give choices too. I let them take turns. This is to prepare them for class. Esau would rather have a bowl of stew right now than his birthright.

PRAYER: (5 minutes)

Help kids learn the value in talking to God. Ask for prayer requests. Write on the white board "Thank You" and "Please Help" – then, let the kids share their "thank you" and "please help" requests. Write them on the white board.

ASK KIDS:

- How God talks to us? (Through the bible and answering our prayers)
- How do we talk to God? (Prayer)

Remind them that we can't have a relationship with anyone, our friends or even parents, if we don't talk to them. It's important that we talk to God. He made us and no one can do the things he can, not even our moms and dads.

Lead kids in prayer.

BIBLE LESSON & ACTIVITY: (25 minutes)

Last week we learned about Abraham and Sarah. They had a baby boy when they were very old and named him Isaac. God promised Abraham he'd make him the father of many nations.

Pass out Hands On Play Item (Play-doh, Silly Putty, Galaxy Slime, Kinetic Sand)

- 1. We are still in the book of Genesis. Make an "O" if you think it is in the Old Testament and an "N" if you think it is in the New Testament. It's in the OLD! And what does Genesis mean? Beginning.
- 2. **Make a hand or your handprint.** Abraham is very old and God had blessed him. Abraham had put his best servant in charge of <u>everything</u> he had. He told his servant, "Put your hand under my thigh." What? That's weird! Not back then. In our culture, taking an oath usually involves raising the right hand or placing a hand on a Bible. In ancient Hebrew culture, it was a little different. Abraham was making his servant promise him something. Abraham said, "I'm living among the people of Canaan. But I want you to promise me that you won't get a wife for my son from *their* daughters. Instead, go to my country and to my own relatives. Get a wife for my son Isaac from there."

- 3. **Make angel wings.** The servant asked Abraham, "What if the woman doesn't want to come back with me to this land? Then should I take your son back to the country you came from?" Abram said, "Make sure you DON'T take my son back there! The LORD will send his angel ahead of you. So you will be able to get a wife for my son from there."
- 4. **Make a big jar of water.** So the servant went to Abram's country. When he got there, he made his camels lie down and prayed, "Make me successful today. I'm standing beside this spring. The daughters of the people who live in the town are coming out here to get water. I will speak to a young woman. I'll say to her, 'Please lower your jar so I can have a drink.' Suppose she says, 'Have a drink of water, and I'll get some for your camels too.' Then let her be the one you have chosen for your servant Isaac. That's how I'll know you have been kind to my master."
- 5. **Make a camel with one hump or two.** How will he know which lady is the right one? She will be the one that gives him a drink of water and gets some for his camels too. Before he even finished praying, Rebekah came out carrying a jar of water on her shoulders. She was beautiful. The servant hurried to meet her and asked for a little water. Guess what happened...
- 6. **Make a moon for nighttime.** She gave him a drink and then... she said, "I'll get water for your camels too until they've had enough to drink." He watched closely. Then he asked if there was a place for them to spend the night. She told him that they had plenty of straw to feed the camels AND a place to spend the night! The servant worshiped God. Laban allowed his sister to go and she married Isaac. God was with him.
- 7. **Make the number 2 or make two babies.** Unfortunately, Rebekah couldn't have children so Isaac prayed and God answered his prayer. Rebekah became pregnant! Not only was she going to have a baby; she was going to have twins! The babies struggled with each other inside her. Rebekah wondered why? God told her it was because two nations were in her body and one would be stronger than the other.
- 8. **Make an E and a J.** When Rebekah had her babies, the first one was red and his whole body was covered in hair so they named him Esau. Then his brother came out holding onto Esau's heel. The named him Jacob. What were the baby's names? Esau and Jacob. That's why we made an E for Esau and a J for Jacob.
- 9. **Make a bowl of soup.** The boys grew up and Esau became a hunter. Jacob liked staying home with his mom and was her favorite. One day Jacob was cooking stew and Esau came in very hungry. Jacob wouldn't let him have any food until he gave him the rights that went to the oldest child. Silly Esau! He did this all for a bowl of stew! **Next week will learn about more trouble between the brothers!**

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE & SONGS: (5 minutes)

Sing the Old Testament books song and then the New Testament books songs.

Game: Bible Sides. There is a side marked "NEW" and a side of the room marked "OLD"

Draw a book out of the "hat" and tell the kids. Now, they must decide if that book is in the Old or New Testament and follow your directions. You may say have them spin, jump, skip, wiggle their noses, etc. Get creative! They follow this instruction to the applicable side of the room. If the book you named in the Old Testament, they spin, jump, skip or wiggle their nose to that side of the room. If in the New, go to that side. After everyone chooses, give the correct answer and draw another card (They do not change sides until you draw the next card). Repeat until class time is up.



(7) Isaac Marries Rebekah, Birth of Jacob & Esau, Esau Sells Birthright

Genesis 24-25 4th & 5th Grade

WARM-UP: (10 minutes)

As kids are arriving, some just before class starts and some right after, play a game of "Would You Rather?" They LOVE this game! Give kids two choices at a time and see what they'd choose. Example: Would you rather ride in a plane or on a boat? Would you rather have a pet cat or dog? Would you rather come face to face with a lion or a bear? After you've given a few choices, they like to give choices too. I let them take turns. This is to prepare them for class. Esau would rather have a bowl of stew right now than his birthright.

PRAYER: (5 minutes)

Help kids learn the value in talking to God. Ask for prayer requests. Write on the white board "Praise" – "Petition" – "Thanksgiving" – "Confession."

- Have kids give suggestions for **Praise** (ex: God is holy, amazing, awesome, our rock).
- Have kids give **Petitions** (needs/please help)
- Have kids give **Thanksgiving** (what are they thankful for)
- Remind them that in a public prayer, we typically pray that God forgives us, but we don't get specific in our **confessions**.
- Lead kids in prayer.

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE: (5 minutes)

Game: Speed.

Pass out bibles and set a timer to 2 minutes. (Have all 66 books in a hat/cup.) Pull a book out of the hat and have kids race to find. As soon as one person finds the book, pull out another book and have everyone look it up (this keeps those that struggle with this practicing, but not feeling like everyone notices). After the timer goes off, see how many they got. (Another option is to put popcorn, candy or marbles in a bowl to see how they did. If it's food, then they share the snack.)

BIBLE LESSON: (25 minutes)

Last week we learned about Abraham and Sarah. They had a baby boy when they were very old and named him Isaac. God promised Abraham he'd make him the father of many nations.

Pass out Hands On Item (Silly Putty or Play-Doh) Teacher may read the verses or choose to let a child read a set while the others create with their play item.

- 1. We are still in the book of Genesis. Make an "O" if you think it is in the Old Testament and an "N" if you think it is in the New Testament. It's in the OLD! And what does Genesis mean? Beginning. **Open bibles to Genesis 24.**
- **2. Make a hand then Read Genesis 24:1-2:** "Put your hand under my thigh." What? That's weird! Not back then. In our culture, taking an oath usually

involves raising the right hand or placing a hand on a Bible. In ancient Hebrew culture, it was a little different. Abraham was making his servant promise him something. Abraham said, "I'm living among the people of Canaan. But I want you to promise me that you won't get a wife for my son from *their* daughters. Instead, go to my country and to my own relatives. Get a wife for my son Isaac from there."

- **3. Make a giant "X" and Read Genesis 24:5-7:** Abraham was clear that Isaac was not to go. Why do you think this was? (Perhaps, if Isaac went back and liked it, he might stay and God had promised Abraham all of Canaan for his family. He wanted Isaac to have it.)
- **4. Make a "?"** So the servant went to Abram's country. **Read Genesis 14:11-14:** The servant asked for God's help and had a plan for how he'd know he was on the right track.
- **5. Make a camel with one hump or two.** While making camel, ask kids to reinforce what the plan was. **Read Genesis 24:15:** He had not even finished praying and God was answering his prayer! The bible tells us in the next verse that she was very beautiful.
- **6. Make an "R" and you'll see why. Read Genesis 24:17-19:** It happened just as he had planned! This was the girl. What was her name? Rebekah.
- **7. Read Genesis 24:26-27:** The servant gave God the glory. Is this something you do regularly? Do you give God the glory when good things happen? **Make the word "Glory"** Rebekah goes home to her brother Laban. Laban talks to the servant and grants him his request. Rebekah gets to marry Isaac!
- **8. Make praying hands. Read Genesis 25:21-22:** Unfortunately, Rebekah couldn't have children so Isaac prayed and God answered his prayer. Rebekah became pregnant! Not only was she going to have a baby; she was going to have twins! The babies struggled with each other inside her. Rebekah wondered why? God told her it was because two nations were in her body and one would be stronger than the other.
- **9. Make an E and a J.** When Rebekah had her babies, the first one was red and his whole body was covered in hair so they named him Esau. Then his brother came out holding onto Esau's heel. The named him Jacob. What were the baby's names? Esau and Jacob. That's why we made an E for Esau and a J for Jacob.
- 10.Read Genesis 25:27-34: Esau became a hunter and was his father's favorite son. Jacob liked staying home with his mom and was her favorite. We see that Esau traded his birthright for a bowl of soup! Like in our game, "Would You Rather," Esau would *rather* have soup than his birthright, the rights of the oldest son. Make an "E" if you'd rather be a hunter and "J" if you'd rather work at home.

Next week we will learn about more trouble between the brothers!