

#56- PreK-2nd: Jacob & Esau, 3rd and up: Jacob Deceives Isaac

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Dear Families: In Bible times the oldest son was to inherit the blessing and most of the material wealth of the father. Here is a story that from first glance seems like a liar, Jacob, gets away with his lies, and stealing his brother's birthright. But looking deeper into the story we will see that Jacob pays many consequences. We also see that God can and does use our failings to work for what is best in the end, if we trust God. God's blessings to you!

Bible Text: Genesis 25:19-28, 29-34; 27:1- Abridged

“... Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was 40 years old when he married Rebekah. . . Isaac prayed for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, ‘If it is to be this way, why do I live?’ So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her, ‘Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger. When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau’s heel, so he was named Jacob. . . When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.”

“Once when Jacob [meaning supplanter] was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, ‘Let me eat some of that red stuff (red lentil stew) for I am famished!’ (Therefore he was called Edom [meaning red].) Jacob said, ‘First sell me your birthright.’ Esau said, ‘I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?’ Jacob said, ‘Swear to me first.’ So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised (didn’t care about) his birthright.

“When Isaac was old and his eyes were dim so that he could not see, he called his elder son Esau and said to him, ‘My son.’ (Esau) answered him, ‘Here I am.’ (Isaac) said, ‘See, I am old; I do not know the day of my death. Now then take you weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field, and hunt game for me to eat, so that I may bless you before I die.’ Now Rebekah was listening when Isaac spoke to his son Esau. So when Esau went to the field to hunt for game and bring it, Rebekah said to her son Jacob, ‘I heard your father say to your brother Esau, ‘Bring me game, and prepare for me savory food to eat, that I may bless you before the Lord before I die.’ ‘Now therefore, my son, obey my word as I command you. Go to the flock, and get me two choice kids, so that I may prepare from them savory food for your father, such as he likes; and you shall take it to your father to eat, so that he may bless you before he dies.’ But Jacob said to his mother, ‘Look, my brother Esau is a hairy man, and I am a man of smooth skin. Perhaps my father will feel me, and I shall seem to be mocking him, and bring a curse on myself and not a blessing.’ (Rebekah) said, ‘Let the curse be on me, only obey my word’. . . Then Rebekah took the best garments of her elder son. . . and put them on her younger son. . . and she put skins of the kids on his hands and on the smooth part of his neck. . . he went into his father. . . ‘Here I am’. . . ‘Who are you my son?’ ‘I am Esau, your firstborn.’ ‘How is it that you found it (game) so quickly?’ ‘Because the Lord your God granted me success.’ ‘Come near that I may feel you.’ . . so he (Isaac) blessed him.’ (Isaac was still not sure it was Esau and asked Jacob questions.). . . As soon as Isaac had finished blessing (Jacob had hardly left when Esau came in and Isaac discovered Jacob’s deceit.) (Esau said, ‘I will kill him.) (And Rebekah sent Jacob away to live with her brother.)

Memory Verses: Remember I wrote several verses in an ABACADAEA pattern for the children to memorize over a few weeks. Please continue work on these:

God is faithful and keeps promises.

"I am your strength." Philippians 4:13

God is faithful and keeps promises.

"I will never leave you." Deuteronomy 1:6

God is faithful and keeps promises.

"I hear your prayers." I John 14:13-14

God is faithful and keeps promises.

"I always love you." I John 4:9-10

God is faithful and keeps promises.

Movement Ideas:

(Cross heart with pointer finger.)

(Show strong arms)

(Cross heart with pointer finger.)

(Shake head. "No.")

(Cross heart with pointer finger.)

(Cup one hand behind one ear)

(Cross heart with pointer finger.)

(Do I Love You in sign language.)

(Cross heart with pointer finger.)

Younger children can just learn the words. Have older children memorize the references too. The movements above will help them remember the words more easily. Feel free to have children make up other movements that fit with the words. You could read the referenced verses with your child.

Another way to help your child memorize is have your child say the repeated part and you say the referenced parts while they do the motions. Reverse rolls and you do the motions while they try to say both parts. They will need lots of repetition. For writers, have them write out the words and references.

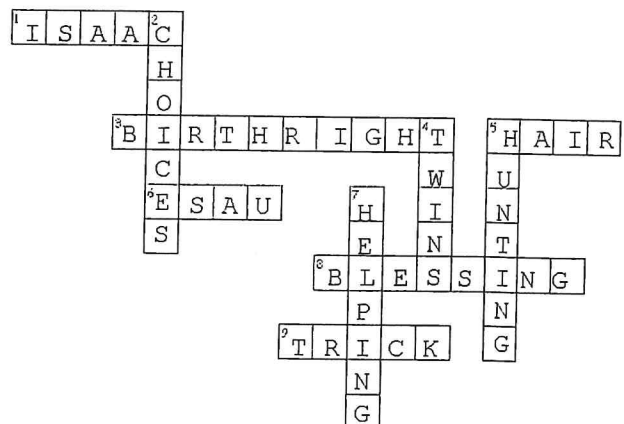
Activities:

PreK-2: *Jacob and Esau puppets (Have children color and cutout the puppets then retell the story using them.) *Esau and Jacob-Circle the right answer * Jacob & Esau crossword

3-5: *Esau Sells His Birthright-Number puzzle *Esau Sells His Birthright-Crossword *Jacob Deceives Issac-Word search



Jacob and Esau Crossword



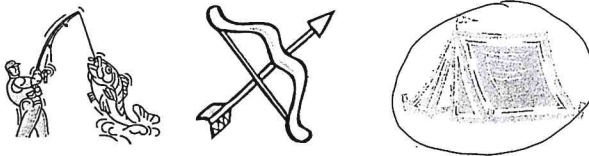
1. Who was born first?

 Jacob  **Esau** X

2. What did Esau like to do?



3. What did Jacob like to do?



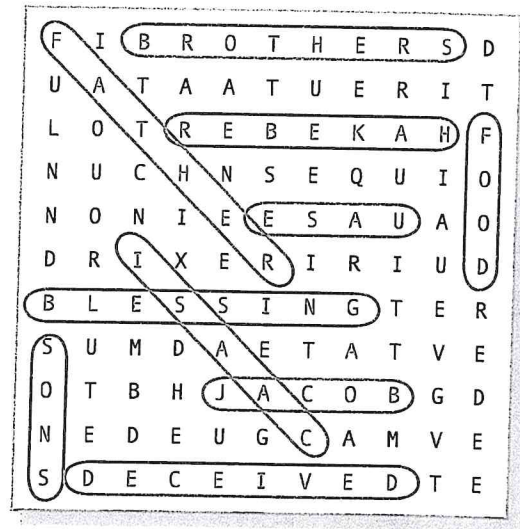
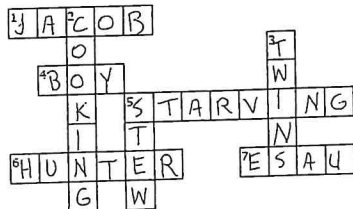
4. What did Esau trade his birthright for?

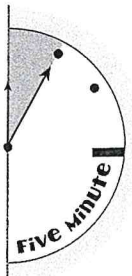


5. Who did Isaac give his blessing to?

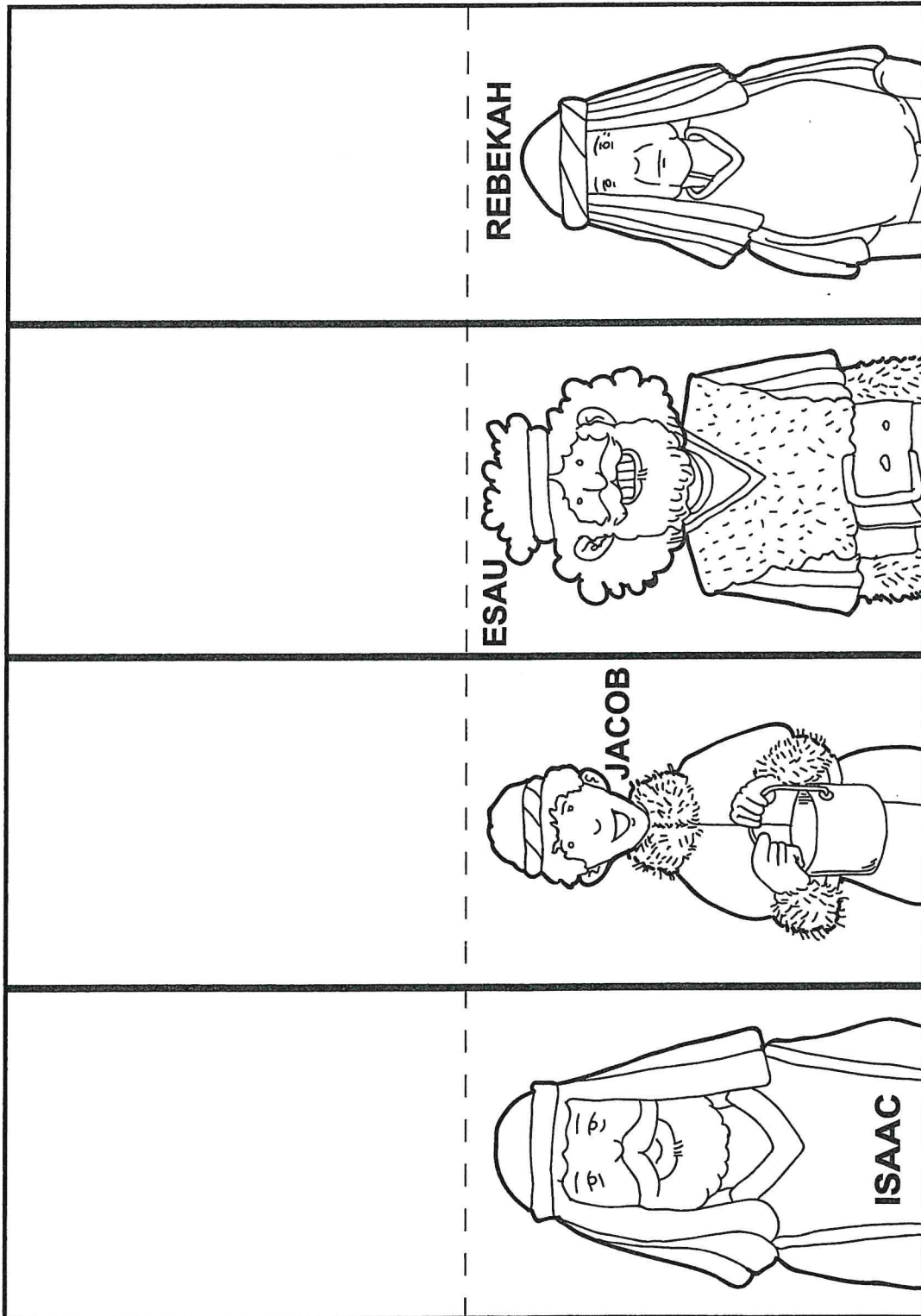
 X **Jacob**  **Esau**

1. 26-6-8-3-10 JACOB
2. 13-18-6-16 ESAU
3. 12-2-9-4 TWIN
4. 10-3-7-18 BOYS
5. 19-16-4-12-13-24 HUNTER
6. 8-3-3-20-9-4-15 COOKING
7. 18-12-13-2 STEW
8. 10-9-24-12-19-24-9-15-19-12 BIRTHRIGHT





Use finger puppets to tell the story of how Jacob received Esau's blessing from Isaac.



Esau & Jacob

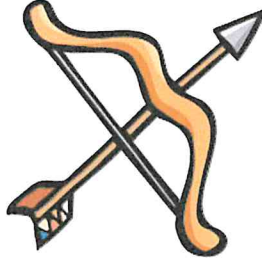
1. Who was born first?

_____ **Jacob**

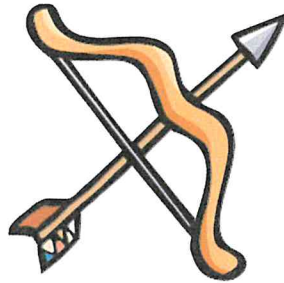


Esau _____

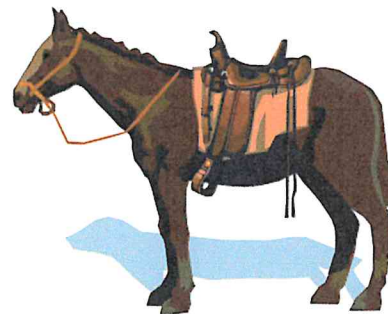
2. What did Esau like to do?



3. What did Jacob like to do?



4. What did Esau trade his birthright for?



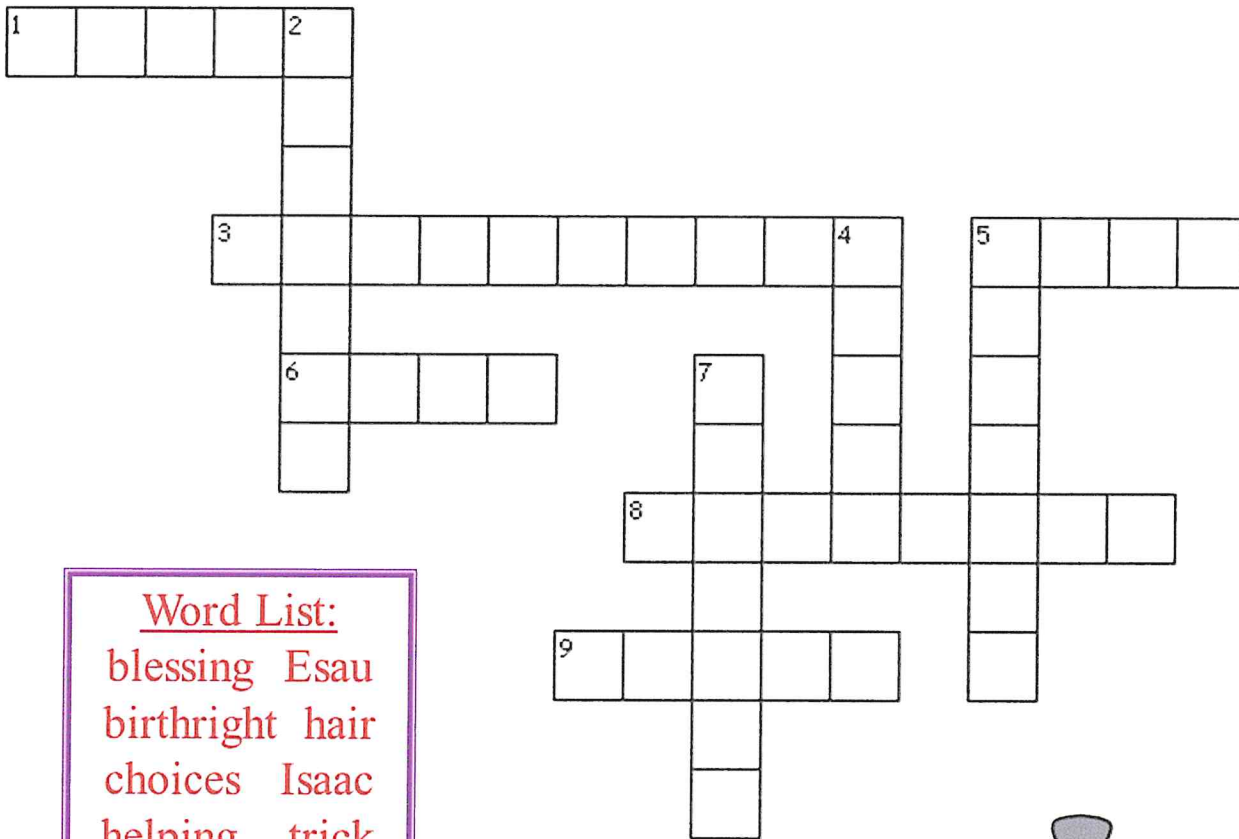
5. Who did Isaac give his blessing to?

_____ **Jacob**



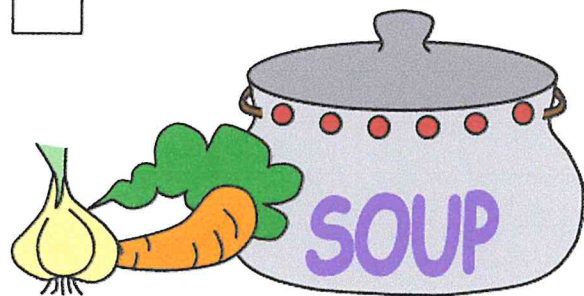
Esau _____

Jacob and Esau Crossword



Word List:

blessing Esau
birthright hair
choices Isaac
helping trick
hunting twins



Across

1. The name of Jacob and Esau's father.
3. Esau gave up this for a bowl of soup.
5. Jacob tricked his father by putting extra ____ on his body so he'd be more like Esau.
6. He was the first of the twins to be born.
8. Isaac gave this to Jacob instead of to Esau.
9. Rebekah came up with a way to ____ Isaac into giving his blessing to Jacob.

Down

2. This story is about making the right ____.
4. Jacob and Esau were not just brothers but were this as well.
5. Esau was good at ____ and doing things outside.
7. Jacob enjoyed ____ others, (especially his mom).

Esau Sells His Birthright

Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright. Genesis 25:34

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



F	W	O	N	M	A	Y	C	I	B	Q	T	E	V	G	U	D	S	H	K	P	X	Z	R	L	J
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

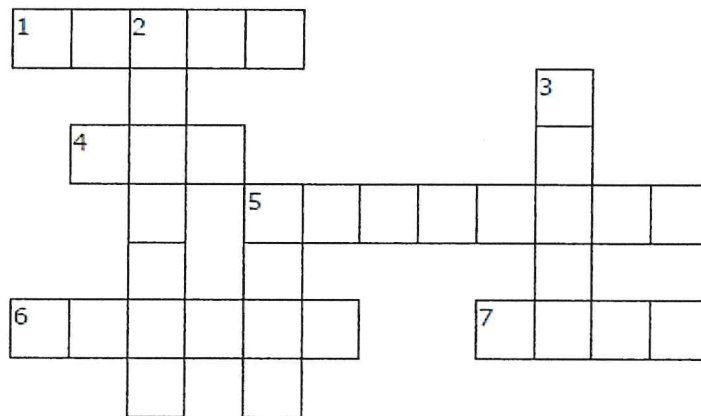
- 26-6-8-3-10 _____
- 13-18-6-16 _____
- 12-2-9-4 _____
- 10-3-7-18 _____
- 19-16-4-12-13-24 _____
- 8-3-3-20-9-4-15 _____
- 18-12-13-2 _____
- 10-9-24-12-19-24-9-15-19-12 _____

JACOB	BOYS	STEW	BIRTHRIGHT
COOKING	ESAU	TWIN	HUNTER

Esau Sells His Birthright

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Puzzle is based on Genesis 25:19-34



ACROSS

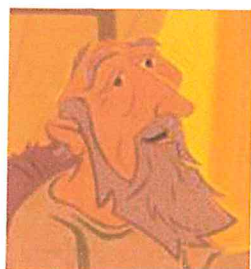
1. The twin brother of Esau
4. A male child
5. Suffering from a lack of food
6. A person who likes to search for and kill wild animals
7. The oldest son of Isaac who loved to hunt

DOWN

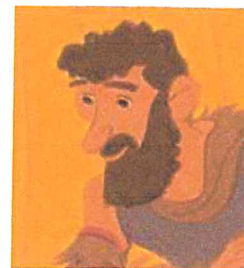
2. Preparing food by heating it
3. Two children born to the same mother on the same occasion
5. A dish of meat and vegetables cooked slowly in liquid

COOKING	HUNTER	TWINS	STARVING
STEW	BOY	JACOB	ESAU

Word Search for Jacob Deceived Isaac



Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be left to right, up and down, or diagonally.



F	I	B	R	O	T	H	E	R	S	D
U	A	T	A	A	T	U	E	R	I	T
L	O	T	R	E	B	E	K	A	H	F
N	U	C	H	N	S	E	Q	U	I	O
N	O	N	I	E	E	S	A	U	A	O
D	R	I	X	E	R	I	R	I	U	D
B	L	E	S	S	I	N	G	T	E	R
S	U	M	D	A	E	T	A	T	V	E
O	T	B	H	J	A	C	O	B	G	D
N	E	D	E	U	G	C	A	M	V	E
S	D	E	C	E	I	V	E	D	T	E

BLESSING
BROTHERS

DECEIVED
ESAU

FATHER
FOOD

ISAAC
JACOB

REBEKAH
SONS