

Status Update

Jacob's story reminds us why we need a Savior. Jacob lied, and he tricked Isaac to get the blessing that wasn't his. Jesus shares His blessing with us. We do not have to lie or trick God to get it. Jesus paid for our sins on the cross and gives us eternal life.

Unit 3, Session 1: The Stolen Blessing

Dear Parents,

Last week, kids learned that God told Rebekah before her sons were born that the older would serve the younger. That wasn't how families typically worked in Bible times. The birthright was an important part of the patriarchal culture. Typically, upon the death of his father, the older brother would receive twice as much property and goods as the younger. But Esau gave it to Jacob for a hot bowl of stew. Later, Jacob wore his brother's clothes and lied to his father to receive a special blessing Isaac meant to bestow on Esau—another privilege afforded to an oldest son. With his blessing, Isaac made his son master over his brother. Just as God said, the older would serve the younger.

Teach your kids that nothing can stop God's perfect plan. Jesus is the firstborn over all creation (Col. 1:15), and He deserves all the privileges afforded to Him. But when Jesus hung on the cross, He gave up His blessing for us. Jesus took the punishment we deserve so that the Father would give us the blessing Jesus deserves.

The Stolen Blessing

Bible Passage: Genesis 25:27-34; 27:1-45

Main Point: Jacob stole Esau's blessing.

Unit Key Passage: Genesis 26:24

Big Picture Question: What can stop God's plan? Nothing can stop God's perfect plan.

***Christ Connection:** Jesus is the firstborn over all creation. (Colossians 1:15) When Jesus hung on the cross, He gave up His blessing for us. Jesus took the punishment we deserve so that the Father would give us the blessing He deserves.*

Family starting points

Babies and Toddlers: God's plan is perfect. God planned to bless Jacob. God planned to send Jesus through Jacob's family.

Preschool: What can stop God's plan? Nothing can stop God's plan. Jacob took what belonged to his brother.

Kids: What can stop God's plan? Nothing can stop God's perfect plan. Jacob stole Esau's blessing.

Questions for home

You can ask these questions all at once or spread them out throughout the week. Please do whatever is best for your family. Use these questions as discussion starters and not just information passing. The important thing is that you talk to your children about the Lord day and night as we are instructed to do in Deuteronomy 6. This resource is not meant to replace your discipleship of your children, but only to function as a help to you in your most important task.

Monday

What work did Jacob and Esau have? (*Jacob worked at home and Esau was a hunter, Genesis 25:27*)

Tuesday

What did Esau trade for stew? (*Esau traded his birthright for stew that Jacob prepared. This means that Esau's right to more inheritance as the oldest son would go to Jacob; Genesis 25:27-34*)

Wednesday

Whom did Isaac intend to bless? Who was blessed instead? (*Esau was supposed to be blessed by Isaac because he was the oldest, but Jacob tricked Isaac and stole Esau's blessing; Genesis 27:18-30*)

Thursday

What can stop God's plan? Nothing can stop God's perfect plan.