



October 27, 2024

## **Dear Parents**,

This week, we'll learn about "Jacob and Esau" (Genesis 25; 27). Isaac and Rebekah, after much prayer, were blessed with twin sons, Jacob and Esau. Though Esau was the firstborn, he eventually traded his birthright to Jacob for food, setting off a series of events that led to Jacob receiving his father Isaac's blessing as well. Although Jacob and Rebekah's actions were deceptive, God's covenant promise was fulfilled through Jacob's family, through whom God would one day send a Savior for the world.

I hope this message will inspire your child to grow in the love and light of Jesus. To help reinforce the lesson at home, please discuss the following points with your child:

- □ **The Power of Prayer:** Discuss how Isaac's prayer for children showed trust in God, and how God answered.
- □ **Birthright and Blessing:** Talk about the meaning of birthrights and blessings, and why Esau's choice mattered.
- **God's Plan for Families:** Explain that God had a special plan for Jacob's family to bring blessings to everyone.

Pray with your child, asking God to help us trust His plans and make wise choices.

Grace and blessings in Christ,

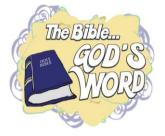
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## Jacob and Esau

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 25; 27 KEY PASSAGE: Genesis 50:20 BIG PICTURE QUESTION: *Who is in control of everything?* God is in control of everything in heaven and on earth. Nothing is outside of God's good plan.



After Isaac and Rebekah were married, Rebekah was not able to have a baby. So Isaac prayed she would have a baby, and God answered his prayer. Isaac and Rebekah had twin sons named Jacob and Esau. Esau was born right before Jacob was, which meant Esau

was the firstborn son. When the boys grew up, Esau became a hunter, but Jacob was a quiet man who stayed at home. Their father Isaac loved Esau because he hunted and caught wild animals for him to eat. But Rebekah loved Jacob.

One day, Esau came home from the field feeling very hungry. Jacob was cooking a stew, and Esau asked to have some. Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." The birthright meant that Esau, as the son who was born first, was supposed to get a larger portion of all the family had and become the family leader after his father died. Esau thought he would die of hunger, so he agreed to give Jacob his birthright to have some of the stew.

Many years later, Jacob and Esau's father Isaac was old and knew he was near the end of his life. He also could not see very well. Isaac called Esau to him and asked him to go hunt a wild animal for him to eat. Then Isaac would



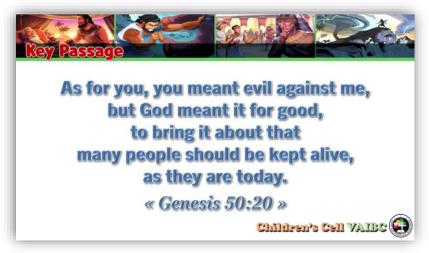


give him his blessing. The blessing was the way that a father passed on the leadership of the family to his oldest son.

Rebekah heard what Isaac said and made a plan to trick him. She told Jacob to bring her two goats, and she made a delicious meal for Isaac. She told Jacob to take the meal to his father Isaac and pretend to be Esau. Jacob was afraid he would be caught trying to trick his father. Even though Isaac could not see very well, Esau was much hairier than Jacob. Jacob was worried that Isaac would feel his smooth skin and know that he was not Esau.

Rebekah took Esau's clothes and put them on Jacob so that he would smell like Esau. She also took some of the skin of the goats and put it over Jacob's neck and hands so he would feel hairy like Esau. Then she gave Jacob the food, and he brought it to Isaac. Isaac was tricked, and he blessed Jacob instead of Esau. When Esau got home from hunting, he learned that Isaac had given his blessing to Jacob instead of to him. Esau had been cheated out of his blessing, and he was very angry.

God's covenant with Abraham continued to the next generation. Esau sold his birthright, giving Jacob the right to the wonderful blessings God promised to his father Abraham. Through Jacob's family, God would send the promised Savior to bring blessing and salvation to the world.







## "Jacob Fled from Canaan"

(Genesis 28; 32)



