

<b>Quarter #:</b> 1	<b>Class Age:</b> 1st-3rd graders	<b>Lesson Title:</b> Jacob and His Family
<b>Lesson #:</b> 9	<b>Prepared By:</b> Emily Sorrells	<b>Lesson Scripture:</b> Genesis 28-35

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**Visuals / Resources:**

- Abeka cards, Flannelgraph, or good story-telling skills, depending on preference.

**Pre-class activity:**

- Sunday - Jeremiah 29:11 Coloring Sheet
- Wednesday - Jacob Crossword Puzzle

**Welcome Activity:** Attendance activity

**Prayer:** Before the prayer, ask the students what they are thankful for. Ask the students who we can pray for. Ask the students how we can praise God. Give examples of these the first few classes. If there is a white board available, you could even keep a prayer request list. Soon they will volunteer plenty of ideas for prayer. Pray.

**Memory Verse:** Jeremiah 29:11 (God is in Control!)

**Review:** Review previous lesson.

Other Review: Other memorization work like saying or singing the books of the Bible, the 12 sons of Jacob, or Abraham's family tree.

**Lesson Facts:** *(Main points to cover...)*

- Jacob marries Leah and Rachel. He worked 7 years for Rachel but he was surprised with Leah as a wife. He worked 7 more years for Rachel. Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah
- God gives Jacob 12 sons: **Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin.**
- Jacob and his family grew in prosperity, but the sons of Laban were jealous. Jacob had to flee again. He took Rachel, Leah, and all of his family and left, but Laban found them. Laban and Jacob made an agreement.
- As Jacob and his family traveled on they came to the land of Edom. Jacob was afraid of his brother Esau and what he might do to him and his family. One night, Jacob wrestled with a man until day break, but the man did not prevail against Jacob. At daybreak, he touched Jacob's hip socket and put it out of joint. He told Jacob his name would no longer be Jacob but Israel because he had striven with God and men and still prevailed.
- When Jacob and Esau met, Jacob bowed to the ground. Esau ran to meet him and hugged him and kissed him. They forgave each other. Jacob introduced his family to Esau.

Illustration -

- Have your parents told you to do something that you didn't want to do? Clean your room? Empty the dishwasher? Clean up after a pet? If you didn't obey and you didn't do it, what would happen? You would be punished, and then, you would still have to end up doing that job. Sometimes children argue or disobey their parents, but it is always so much better for everyone if the children do what the parents ask when they ask. This is like Jacob. He was a faithful man, but sometimes he didn't act like it. In fact, that is why God changed his name to "fighting with God." Jacob made life and faith so much harder when he wrestled with God.

- When I was 4 years old, I put gum in the clothes dryer. As my punishment I could not have gum for a year...AND...Every time someone offered me gum, I had to tell them why I could not have it. I don't remember my 4 year old thought process as to why I put gum in the dryer, but I do remember that punishment. Sometimes we do the wrong thing and the consequences help us remember. God touched Jacob's hip and it reminded Jacob that God is in charge. Reminders We may fight against God and his will for us in our lives, but ultimately, GOD IS IN CONTROL.

**Principle:** *(Concept / Key truth to be gained...)*

- God shows us that showing favoritism does not go well. Jacob favored one wife over another. Jacob favored Joseph. Jacob and Esau's parents favored certain children. The favoritism caused division, competition, anger, jealousy, etc.
- God wants us to forgive one another. Jacob and Esau forgave one another. God forgives us.
- God wants us to love our brothers and sisters. Esau hated Jacob and plotted to kill him.

**Application:** *(How students can apply...)*

- Don't show favoritism. You might have some more things in common with one of your brothers or sisters (or parents or children or friends) than another, but you should love them the same. We would never want to do something that would hurt someone else just because we have more things in common with another.
- Be forgiving. If someone wrongs you in some way, forgive them right away. Don't just say it; mean it. A grudge or a problem between you and another person hurts you, them, and others. God forgives us, and he says we must forgive others if we want to be forgiven.

**Activities:**

Activities for Sunday & Wednesday - choose which activity to do on which day according to time, attendance, student energy level, etc.

- As a class, make a list of facts about Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Show that each of them have something in common - their faith. Ask the students to name some things that the men did wrong. Show the students that even though each one sometimes made a mistake, God still used them to carry out his plan. (If there is time, you can look in Hebrews and read about some of these men. Ask the students if they were known for their mistakes. What were they known for?)
- Tell the story from this week and last week, but tell it with errors. Tell the students to catch the errors and correct you.
- Jacob & Esau Worksheet p. 15 - mark with J or E
- Jacob & His Family Worksheet - circle the correct picture

**Songs:**

- The 12 sons of Jacob song

**Other Notes:** If other people have lost items from the master file, I may have copies at home. Let me know; I usually try to keep a copy as well.

*Note to teachers – please leave this master copy in file folder & add info as it becomes available.*