

Bible Lessons for Children
Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word
By Tamarie Tigh

Primary Lesson Twenty-one: Jacob and Esau

Overview

Bible Facts: The books of the Bible Genesis - Malachi
Bible Reading & Discussion: Genesis 25:7-10,19-34; Hebrews 12:15-17; Romans 9:10-12
Memorization & Art Activity: "A Baptist Catechism: A Catechism for Boys & Girls" Question 16

Opening

Get students' attention by using a pre-planned silence signal.
Have students sit in rows or a semi-circle facing you.
Open in prayer asking God's blessing upon the time.

Bible Facts
5-10 minutes

Materials: Bibles for students to use
Strategies: Sing It & Bible Drill
Instructions: Sing all five verses of the "Books of the Old Testament" song. Remind students how to locate chapters and verses within the books of the Old Testament. Students hold closed Bibles up over head. The leader then calls out a Scripture reference – first the book, then the chapter, finally the verse. When the leader says, "Charge," the students look for the reference in their Bibles. When the reference is found, students stand and begin reading the verse. (Leader should choose Old Testament verses that relate to the lesson's Bible reading and/or Bible memory.)

Bible Reading
15 minutes

Materials: Bibles (all the same translation) for students to use
Strategies: Choral Reading
Scripture: Genesis 25:7-10,19-34; Hebrews 12:15-17; Romans 9:10-12
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Make sure that each student or pair of students has the same Bible translation as the Leader. Everyone reads the text together in unison.

Bible Discussion
10 minutes

Materials: Cut lengths of string, word poster: add "Sovereign = Ultimate Authority"
Strategy: String Wrap
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. A length of string is given to each student. The student wraps the string loosely around one finger while answering questions. When the string is all wrapped, the student is done answering questions.
Questions: How old was Abraham when he died? (175 years old) What did Isaac pray for Rebekah? (That she would have children) Rebekah had twins. What did they do BEFORE they were born? (Struggled together) When Rebekah prayed about the situation, what did God tell her? (The two nations/peoples would be divided, one would be stronger, and the older would serve the younger) What were the names of the twins? (Esau and Jacob) Describe Esau. (Oldest twin, red, hairy, hunter, outdoorsman, his father's favorite) Describe Jacob. (Younger twin, quiet, indoors man, his mother's favorite) Esau sold his birthright to Jacob for what? (Stew) According to Vine's Expository Dictionary "A birthright involved pre-eminence and authority. Connected with the birthright was the progenitorship of the Messiah. Esau transferred his birthright to Jacob for a paltry mess of

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pottage, profanely despising this last spiritual privilege...Esau's birthright bargain could not be recalled; it involved an irretrievable loss." How is Esau described in Hebrews? (Sexually immoral and unholy, sold his birthright for a single meal) It was wrong for Esau to sell his birthright to Jacob, but before they were born, God had already planned that Esau would serve Jacob. Vine's Expository Dictionary says, "In the history of the nation God occasionally set aside the birthright, to show that the objects of His choice depended not on the will of the flesh, but on His own authority. Thus Isaac was preferred to Ishmael; Jacob to Esau...The source of their election is God's grace, not human will." Before the twins were born, God had told Rebekah that the older would serve the younger. According to Romans, this was "in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of his call." What does this teach us about God? (God is in control. God is the authority. It is God's purpose, God's election, and God's call. Rather than allowing the oldest to automatically be the chosen one as by the natural order of things, God chose to call the younger son.)

Show students the word poster and have them act out the words: Creator, Omnipotent, Omniscient, Life-source, Just, Merciful, Righteous, Life-sustainer, Creator of Nations, In control, Long-suffering, Glory, Providence, Deliverer, Savior, All-seeing, Faithful, Freer from law, Judge, Provider (cup hands and move arms from self as though giving to someone), Prayer Answerer (fold hands and bow head), Sovereign = Ultimate Authority (hold out fist as though holding a king's scepter)

Group Prayer

Through prayer, praise God for Who He Is.

Bible Memory 10-15 minutes

Materials: White board with markers and eraser

Strategy: Sing It

Instructions: Have students sit in a semi-circle or rows facing a white board with the following words written on it:

Question 16: "Who were our first parents?"

Answer: "Adam and Eve"

Verse: "The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living." Genesis 3:20

Make a song/tune that students can sing to learn the passage. First sing the song while reading words and looking at visuals, then try to sing the song from memory.

Bible Art Activity As time allows

Materials: Paper, pencils, sample project

Activity: Word game

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give each student a piece of paper. Have students write "father Adam" and "mother Eve" at the top of the paper. Challenge students to use the letters in the words to make as many names as possible (such as: Tom, Eva, Matt, etc.).

Closing

Have students assist with clean-up.

Remind students to practice their memory work throughout the week.

Close in prayer & dismiss.