

# Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

## FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Did Rebekah and Jacob trust God's promises?
- Why did God choose Jacob over Esau as part of His plan? (See Rom. 9:6-12.)
- How can this story help you trust God when life happens differently than you plan?

## Jacob and Esau

Genesis 27-28

### STORY POINT: REBEKAH AND JACOB TRICKED ISAAC INTO BLESSING JACOB.

When Isaac was old and he could not see, he called for his older son Esau. "Go hunting and make a meal for me," he said. "I want to bless you before I die."

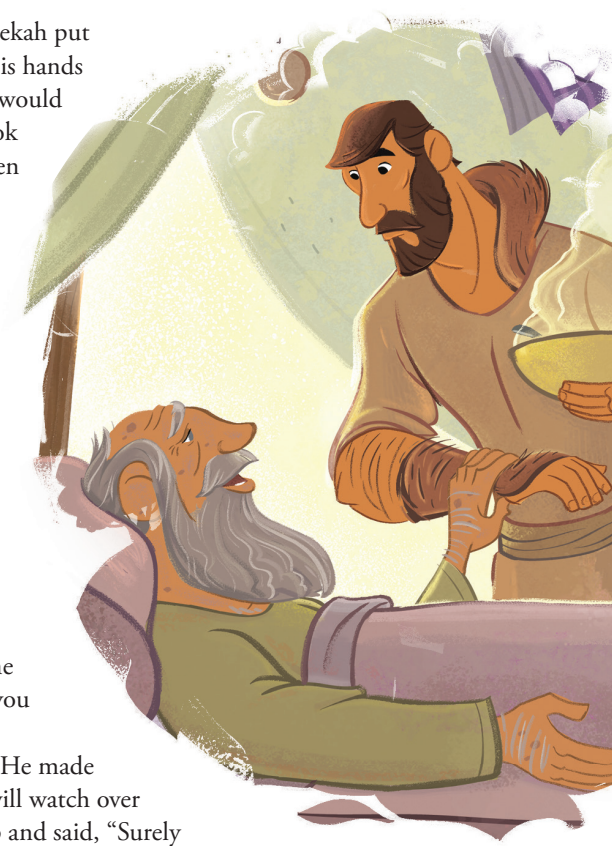
Rebekah made her own plan. Rebekah put Esau's clothes on Jacob and covered his hands and neck with goat hair so that Isaac would think Jacob was Esau. Then Jacob took the meal to his father, and he ate. Then Isaac offered him the blessing.

About this time, Esau came home. When he gave food to Isaac, his father told him that he had been tricked. Jacob had been given the blessing. Esau was angry, and he made a plan to kill Jacob. Isaac and Rebekah sent Jacob away.

Jacob had a dream of a stairway set on the ground with its top reaching the sky. Angels were going up and down the stairs. Then God spoke to Jacob: "I am the God of your grandfather, Abraham, and the God of your father, Isaac. I will give you and your offspring this land."

He gave Jacob the same covenant He made with Abraham. "I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go." Jacob woke up and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place." He renamed the place Bethel, and Jacob promised to follow God and honor Him.

*Christ Connection: The promises for Abraham and Isaac also became the promises for Jacob. At Bethel, God showed that His plan was to continue the covenant through Jacob's family and eventually a whole nation, leading to the birth of Jesus—the promised Savior.*



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## Tricked!

Find and circle 10 differences between the two pictures.

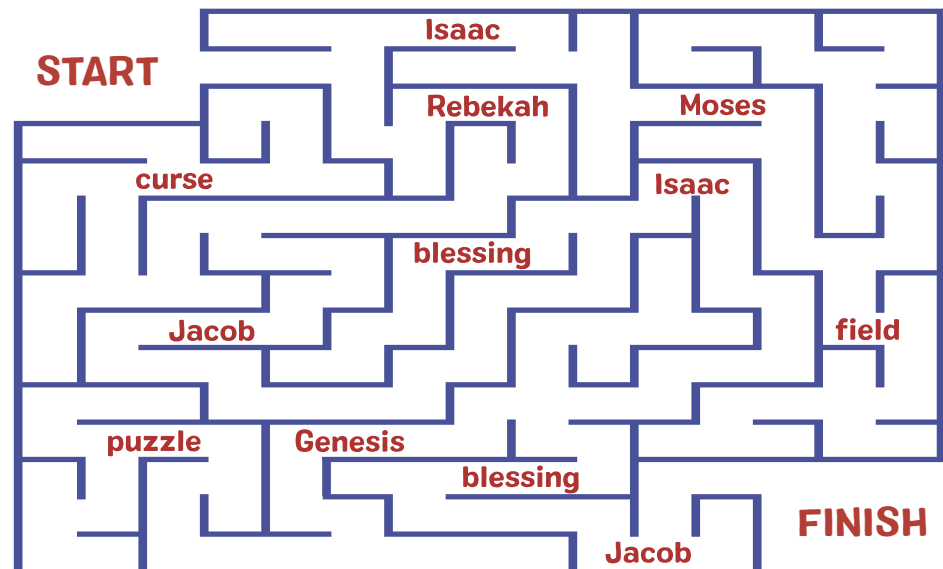
## Blessing Maze

Complete the maze. Use each word you pass through to fill in the blanks.

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

tricked \_\_\_\_\_ into

\_\_\_\_\_.



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## FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- How did God show His love for Leah? Through whose family did God send Jesus into the world?
- Have you ever been tempted to be deceptive, or tricky, to get what you want?
- How can you show God's love to others?

## Jacob and Rachel

Genesis 29–31

### STORY POINT: LABAN TRICKED JACOB INTO MARRYING LEAH AND RACHEL.

Jacob traveled from Bethel toward his uncle Laban's land. He came to a well where shepherds were watering their sheep. "Do you know a man named Laban?" Jacob asked.

"Yes," they said. "Here comes his daughter Rachel with her sheep." Jacob told Rachel that he was her relative, a son of Rebekah. Rachel ran to tell her father Laban.

Laban welcomed Jacob into his house. Jacob stayed with Laban and worked for him. After about a month, Laban said, "What should I pay you for your work?"

Jacob said, "I will work for you seven years if you will let me marry Rachel." Laban agreed. Jacob worked for seven years. Then Laban had a feast, but instead of giving Rachel to Jacob, Laban gave his older daughter, Leah. Jacob was upset. "Why did you trick me?" he asked.

Laban said, "I will give you Rachel too, but you must work another seven years." So a week later, Jacob married Rachel. Then he worked for Laban seven more years.

Now Jacob had two wives, but he loved Rachel more than Leah. When God saw Leah was not loved, He gave her children. Rachel wanted children too. God heard her prayer, and in time, God gave her children too. In all, Jacob had twelve sons. God told Jacob to go home to the land of Canaan. So Jacob gathered his family and his possessions, and he headed home.

*Christ Connection: Nothing could stop God's plan for the family of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Even though Jacob did not love Leah, God loved her and used her in His plan. Through the family of Jacob and Leah's son Judah, God would show His love for the world by sending His Son to be the Savior He promised.*



FOLD

# Family Matters

Use the clues below to match the descriptions to the people in the Bible story from Genesis 29–31.

1. Esau's brother was not the father-in-law of Jacob.
2. Jacob's wives were named Leah and Rachel.
3. Leah and Rachel were sisters.
4. Rebekah was Jacob's mother.
5. Jacob's first wife was Laban's older daughter.
6. Rachel was younger than Leah.

	Jacob	Laban	Leah	Rachel	son of Isaac and Rebekah	father-in-law of Jacob	first wife of Jacob	second wife of Jacob
older daughter of Laban								
younger daughter of Laban								
brother of Rebekah								
brother of Esau								
first wife of Jacob								
second wife of Jacob								
son of Isaac and Rebekah								
father-in-law of Jacob								



## That Just Happened

Use the words in the word bank to fill in the blanks.

\_\_\_\_\_ tricked \_\_\_\_\_ into marrying \_\_\_\_\_ instead of \_\_\_\_\_.

Through the family of Jacob and Leah's son Judah, God would show His \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_ by sending His Son to be the Savior He \_\_\_\_\_.

### Word Bank

Jacob  
Laban  
love  
world  
promised  
Rachel  
Leah



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## FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why do you think Jacob refused to let go of God?
- On whom did Jacob's future depend? Who is in control of our future?
- How are we changed when we trust in Jesus?

## Jacob's New Name

Genesis 32–33

**STORY POINT: GOD CHANGED JACOB'S NAME TO ISRAEL, THE NAME OF GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE.**

Jacob took his family and all his possessions and headed home to Canaan. Jacob was afraid that Esau would still be angry with him for stealing his blessing.

Jacob made a plan. He divided his family into two groups. If Esau attacked one group, maybe the other group could escape.

Then Jacob asked God to keep His promise. Jacob prayed, "Please rescue me from my brother Esau." Jacob sent a large gift of animals to try to make Esau happy. That night, a man appeared. (The man was actually God Himself!) The man wrestled with Jacob all night. Jacob refused to give up, so the man injured Jacob's hip.

But Jacob would not let Him go. "I will not let You go unless You bless me," Jacob said.

"Your name will no longer be Jacob," said the man. "Your name will be Israel because you wrestled with God and men, and you have won." The man blessed Jacob. Now Jacob went to meet Esau. Esau ran to Jacob and hugged him. He was not angry anymore.

Esau returned home. Jacob and his family traveled on, and Jacob bought land for them to live on. He was finally home in the land God had promised him.

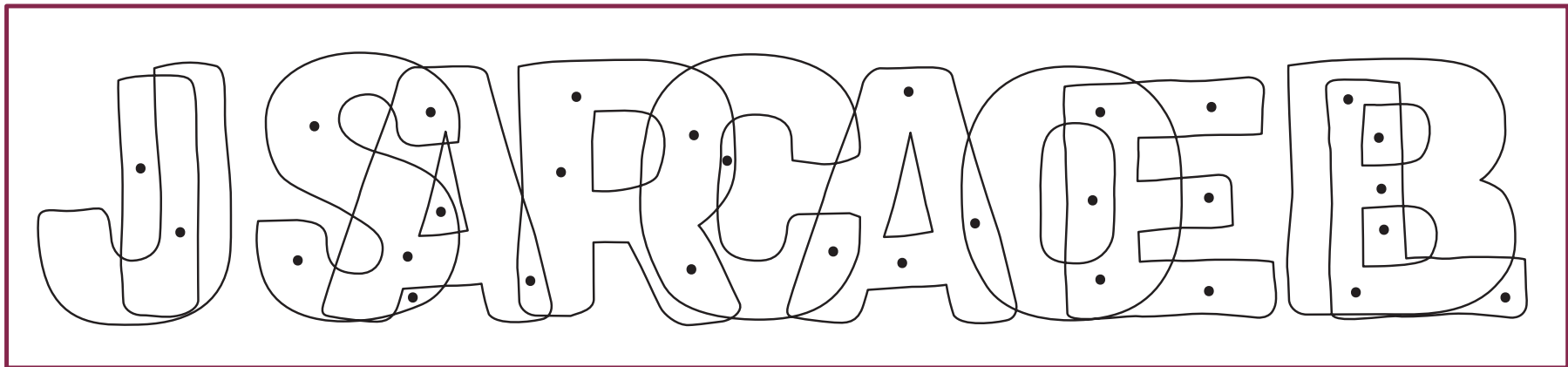
*Christ Connection: God changed Jacob's life and gave him a new name, Israel. Jesus came so that we might have a changed life, forgiven of sin. (2 Corinthians 5:17) Jesus' death and resurrection provided sinful people the way to be adopted into God's family. When we are adopted into the family of God we also receive a new name—children of God. (John 1:12)*



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# Jacob's New Name

Color in the spaces that have one dot to discover Jacob's new name



## Heading Home | Number the events in the order they happened.



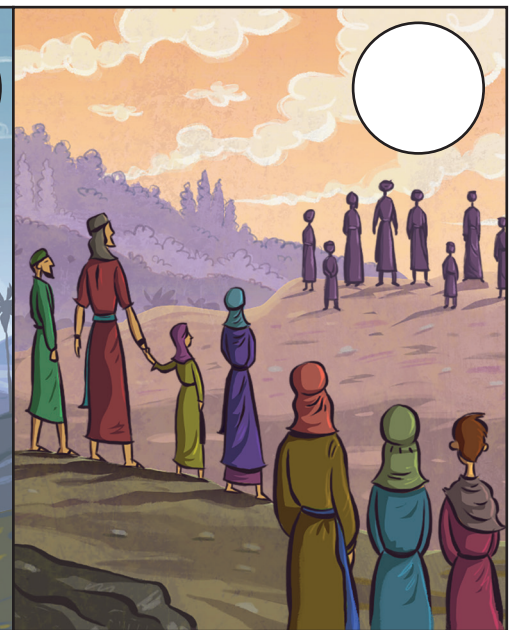
Jacob wrestled with God all night.



Jacob sent messengers to tell Esau he was coming home.



Esau ran to Jacob and hugged him, welcoming him home.



Jacob divided his family into two groups and sent Esau a gift.