



# Jacob and Esau

Lesson Aim: To know we can forgive each other.

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God Is:** The God Who Keeps His Promises

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** Genesis 27:30-35; 32:5; 33:4-11

**What He Has Done:** God kept His promised plan for each brother.

## THE WAY - BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"I will watch over you wherever you go." Genesis 28:15

Unit 7: The God Who Keeps His Promises			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
32	Abram and Lot, Genesis 13:1-2, 5-11, 14-18	God gave Abram the land and blessed it.	To see how to live in peace with one another.
33	Hagar and Ishmael, Genesis 21:12-20	God kept His promise when He rescued Hagar and Ishmael in the desert.	To know God watches over us.
34	Abraham's Visitors, Genesis 15:5-6; 18:1-14	God sent three men to say His promise would come true.	To know God can do anything He promises.
35	The Search for Rebekah, Genesis 24:34-46, 61-67	God helped Abraham's servant find Rebekah.	To show how to obey and pray.
36	Jacob and Esau, Genesis 27:30-35; 32:5; 33:4-11	God kept His promised plan for each brother.	To know we can forgive each other.
37	Life of Jacob: The Dream, Genesis 28:12-17	God told Jacob in a dream He would keep His promise.	To trust God to keep His promise to be with us wherever we go.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read 1 Timothy 1:12-17. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for choosing us. Inspire the children to pursue the repairing and the building of family relationships that honor You and each other. Amen."

## TEACHER'S TIP

**Forgiveness.** When conflicts occur in your classroom, use the opportunity to teach about forgiveness. Take time to talk through what happened with the children involved. Encourage them to apologize and, if possible, help them to find a concrete way of expressing their regret. Ask what they could do next time they are faced with a similar situation. Most importantly, lead by example! We can show the children how important it is to forgive and ask for forgiveness by admitting our own mistakes and accepting forgiveness when asked.



# THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 20	<b>Treasure Chest</b>	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a heart
		<b>Coloring Center:</b> Jacob and Esau	Coloring pages of Jacob and Esau, crayons
		<b>Play-Dough Center:</b> Sad Face, Happy Face	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		<b>Dramatic lay Center:</b> Family Meals	Dishes, cups, napkins, play food
		<b>Activity Center:</b> Families Share	Puzzle
		<b>Preparing for Worship</b>	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs are available at ResourceWell.org.	Praise music, optional: musical instruments <b>Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "I Am with You" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Be Still and Know" "Give Thanks to the Lord" "Guide Me in Your Truth" "He Is Mighty to Save" "I Will Listen to the Lord" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "The Lord Is Faithful" <b>Additional Song Suggestions:</b> "Father Abraham" "My God Is So Big" by Mary Rice Hopkins
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 7, Lesson 36
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Watch the Word:</b> Genesis 27:30-35; 32:5; 33:4-11	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Genesis 33:4 Visual: Picture of the Bible story, deflated beach ball
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> Esau Finger Puppet	Flesh-colored and various colors of sturdy paper, label, glue or glue stick, crayons
		<b>Say &amp; Do:</b> Genesis 27:30-35; 32:5; 33:4-11	None
		<b>Game:</b> "Forgive Everyone" Freeze Dance	Praise music
		<b>Snack:</b> Hearts of Forgiveness	Heart-shaped crackers or cookies
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 7, Lesson 36
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Stand Up and Say It!	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Wherever You Go	Chairs (optional)
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about forgiveness

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



The God who keeps His promises

## THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello \_\_\_\_\_. I am glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a heart. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a heart remind you to forgive everyone with all your heart.**

**Teacher's Note:** These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

### COLORING CENTER: JACOB AND ESAU

#### **SUPPLIES**

Coloring pages of Jacob and Esau, crayons

#### **DO**

Children color their pictures while talking about the story.

#### **TALK ABOUT**

**In our Bible story today, we will hear about two brothers named Jacob and Esau. How many people are in your family? Do you have a brother or a sister?** (Children respond.) Talk with the children about the people in their families.

### PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: SAD FACE, HAPPY FACE

#### **SUPPLIES**

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

#### **DO**

Children create sad and happy faces with the play-dough while talking about family.

#### **TALK ABOUT**

**Our story today is about two brothers, Jacob and Esau. Jacob took something that belonged to Esau. Esau was very angry, but eventually he forgave Jacob and gave him a great big hug. Have you ever been angry with someone?** (Children respond.) **When people hurt us, God wants us to forgive them. What do you think it means to forgive someone?** (Children respond.)

**When someone hurts us, what kind of face do we make?** (A sad face.) **Can you make a sad face with the play-dough? When we forgive someone, what kind of face do we make?** (A happy face.) **Can you change the sad face you made to a happy face?**

# THE WELCOME *continued ...*

## **DRAMATIC PLAY CENTER: FAMILY MEALS**

### **SUPPLIES**

Dishes, cups, napkins, play food

### **DO**

Children create a “family meal” while talking about family.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**Jacob and Esau were brothers. Isaac and Rebekah were their parents. I’m sure they often came together as a family to eat dinner. Everyone in our class today is part of God’s family. Let’s pretend we are having a family dinner.** Talk with the children about what everyone should make for your dinner together. Talk with them about what they and their families like to eat.

## **ACTIVITY CENTER: FAMILIES SHARE**

### **SUPPLIES**

Puzzle

### **DO**

Encourage the children to work together to complete the puzzle.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**Let’s work together on this puzzle. Can we take turns putting in the pieces? Jacob and Esau were brothers. Brothers and sisters often have to share what they have, don’t they? Do you have a brother or sister you share with?** (Children respond.)

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## **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

Once the service has begun, clean up and begin the planned activities.

**Let’s sing the “Clean Up Song” as we put toys away.** Praise any child who helps.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!**

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com))

**“I will  
watch over you  
wherever**

**You  
go.”**

**Genesis 18:15**

(I) Point to self.

(watch) Pointer and middle finger point out away from you.

Hold up pointer finger and shake it from side to side.

Index finger points straight ahead.

Both index fingers move away from the body as they tip forward.

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



The God who keeps His promises

# THE WORSHIP

**Supplies:** Praise music, optional: musical instruments

**Teacher Tip:** To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



**The Bible tells about two brothers, Jacob and Esau. Jacob took something from Esau, but when Jacob asked Esau to forgive him, he did! God wants us to love and forgive each other just as He forgives us when we do wrong things. Let's pray.** Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear God, thank You for forgiving the wrong things we do. Help us to love and forgive others. Amen.**



**The Lord is faithful to all His promises. That means if He says it, He'll do it!** Sing: "The Lord Is Faithful."

**As we collect our offering, let's remember how great our God is.** Sing: "My God Is So Big" or "He Is Mighty to Save" while the offering is collected.



**Let's see if our friends Delbert and Lello have heard the story of Jacob and Esau.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 7, Lesson 36.



**God made a special promise to us when He said, "I will watch over you wherever you go." Let's say our Bible Memory Verse together.** Practice with the motions a few times.

**"I will  
watch over you  
wherever  
You  
go."  
Genesis 18:15**

(I) Point to self.  
(watch) Pointer and middle finger point out away from you.  
Hold up pointer finger and shake it from side to side.  
Index finger points straight ahead.  
Both index fingers move away from the body as they tip forward.  
Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



**God watched over Jacob and Esau their whole lives. God promises to watch over us, too.** Sing: "I Am with You."



Esau forgives Jacob

## THE WORD

**Supplies:** Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Genesis 33:4, picture of the Bible story, deflated beach ball

**Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.**

<b>With my eyes on my teacher;</b>	Point to eyes.
<b>My mouth quiet as can be,</b>	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
<b>I will listen to hear,</b>	Cup hand around ear.
<b>How God loves you and me.</b>	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

**Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears.** Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

Today, I brought a beach ball to share with you, but there's a problem. I let my friend borrow it and the ball got a hole in it. Now, it won't hold air. At first, I was angry, but my friend was sorry and she asked me to forgive her. What do you think God would want me to do? (Forgive her.) That's exactly what I did. I forgave her and we gave each other a great, big hug! God is happy when we forgive people. That reminds me of today's story. It's a story about forgiveness between two brothers named Jacob and Esau. Let's listen. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Genesis 33:4.



### **WATCH THE WORD: GENESIS 27:30-35; 32:5; 33:4-11**

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **Jacob tricked his father Isaac.**
- **This made his brother Esau mad.**
- **So Jacob ran away from Esau**
- **And hurried across the land.**
  
- **Then Jacob sent a message to Esau.**
- **Esau showed that he forgave.**
- **He ran to give Jacob a kiss and a hug;**
- **They became friends that day.**
  
- **When Jacob saw Esau's face**
- **And how he was forgiven,**
- **He said it was like seeing the face**
- **Of the Lord God in heaven.**

**What did Esau do when he saw Jacob coming toward him?** (He ran to meet him. He gave him a hug.)  
**Esau forgave Jacob. What does God want us to do?** (Forgive everyone.)



Forgive everyone

## THE WAY

**Teacher Tip:** Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

### **CRAFT: ESAU FINGER PUPPET**

**Purpose:** To remember the big hug Esau gave to Jacob when he forgave him.

**Note:** A craft template with instructions and a sample are available at [ResourceWell.org](http://ResourceWell.org) or use the following instructions to design your own.

**Supplies:** Flesh-colored and various colors of sturdy paper, label, glue or glue stick, crayons

**Prepare:** Cut a 2-inch x 6-inch rectangle shape for Esau's robe from any color sturdy paper. Cut two finger holes at the bottom of the robe. From the flesh-colored paper, cut a 2-inch circle for Esau's head, two 1-inch x 8-inch strips of paper for Esau's long arms, and two paper hands. For arms, fold the two long strips of paper accordion style. On a label, print:

**Esau forgives Jacob.  
Genesis 27:30-35; 32:5; 33:4-11**

#### **Directions:**

1. Draw Esau's happy face on the circle.
2. Glue the circle shape onto the top of the rectangle (robe).
3. Attach the label to Esau's robe.
4. For Esau's arms, glue a folded paper strip to either side of the rectangle.
5. Glue hands on the ends of the paper strip arms.
6. Optional: Color the arms to make Esau's arms hairy.
7. Teacher: Show children how to put their fingers in the holes to make Esau walk.

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **How do you think Jacob felt when he saw Esau had forgiven him?** (Children respond.)
- **With your Esau puppet, can you show me how Esau would have run to see his brother, Jacob?** (Children respond.) **Now, show me how he gave Jacob a big hug.**

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SAY & DO: GENESIS 27:30-35; 32:5; 33:4-11**

**Purpose:** This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

**Supplies:** None

**Directions:** With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and leads the children in doing the hand motions.

- **Jacob tricked his father Isaac.** (Wag index finger no.)
- **This made his brother Esau mad.** (Fold arms angrily.)
- **So Jacob ran away from Esau** (Run in place.)
- **To live in a far away land.** (Walk in place.)
  
- **Then Jacob sent a message to Esau.** (Cup hands at mouth, as if calling.)
- **Esau showed that he forgave.** (Pretend to clean hands.)
- **He ran to give Jacob a kiss and a hug;** (Hug self.)
- **They became friends that day.** (Hands on heart.)
  
- **When Jacob saw Esau's face** (Point to eyes.)
- **And how he was forgiven,** (Pretend to clean hands.)
- **He said it was like seeing the face** (Point to eyes.)
- **Of the Lord God in heaven.** (Point to heaven.)

## **GAME: "FORGIVE EVERYONE" FREEZE DANCE**

**Purpose:** To build a habit of forgiving as quickly as possible from the heart with a hug.

**Supplies:** Praise music

**When people hurt us, God wants us to forgive them. To forgive means to forget the wrong things others have done. When the music stops, let's shout, "Forgive everyone!" and give someone a hug just like Esau hugged Jacob.**

**Directions:**

1. Play praise music. Encourage children to dance while the music is playing.
2. Periodically stop the music and have the children stop, shout **"Forgive everyone!"** and give someone a hug.



# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: HEARTS OF FORGIVENESS**

**Purpose:** To remember to forgive others.

**Snack Suggestion:** Heart-shaped crackers or cookies

### **Directions:**

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or another familiar tune.  
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again,  
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **Esau forgave Jacob for taking his blessing. God wants us to forgive others, too. Have you ever done something wrong that you needed to ask forgiveness for?** (Children respond.) **Did someone forgive you?** (Children respond.) **How did that feel?** (Children respond.)
  - **Have you ever forgiven someone else?** (Children respond.) **How did that feel?** (Children respond.)



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

**"I will  
watch over you  
wherever  
You  
go."  
Genesis 18:15**

(I) Point to self.  
(watch) Pointer and middle finger point out away from you.  
Hold up pointer finger and shake it from side to side.  
Index finger points straight ahead.  
Both index fingers move away from the body as they tip forward.  
Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

### **PRAY**

**Let's pray together.** Say a closing prayer with the children.

### **PLAY**

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

### **DISMISSAL**

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## **GOT TIME?**

### **SAY & DO: GENESIS 27:30-35; 32:5; 33:4-11**

**Purpose:** This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

See **THE WAY** for the Say & Do.



### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES**

"I will watch over you wherever you go." Genesis 28:15

### **GAME: STAND UP AND SAY IT!**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** None

**In the Bible, God made a promise to watch over us. We can remember that promise by saying it to one another.** Practice saying the Bible Memory Verse together a few times.

**Directions:**

1. Say, **"If you are a girl, I want you to stand and say God's promise together."**
2. The girls stand and say, **"I will watch over you wherever you go."**
3. Repeat steps 1-2 with various groups such as:
  - If you are a boy.
  - If you love God.
  - If you are wearing something blue.
  - If you have a brother or sister.
4. Play as often as you like, announcing different groups each time.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: WHEREVER YOU GO**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Chairs (optional)

**Prepare:** In this game, the children will pretend to travel to various locations. You may choose to set up two rows of chairs next to each other as a pretend car or the children can sit in rows on the floor.

**In the Bible, God made a promise to watch over us wherever we go. What are some of the places we go?** (e.g., Grandma's house, store, playground, doctor's office.)

### **Directions:**

1. Children sit in the chairs or sit in rows on the floor.
2. **Let's pretend we're riding in a car.** Ask one of the children, **"Where should we go?"**
3. Have fun pretending to drive the car to that location. Pretend to stop for traffic or to take a wrong return. When you arrive, say, **"We're here!"**
4. You may choose to have the children get out of the car and act out an activity they might do at that location, such as hugging grandma, buying milk, or running in place for the playground.
5. Ask, **"Is God with us when we are at name of location?"**
6. Lead the children in saying, **"God says, 'Yes! I will watch over you wherever you go.'"**
7. If the children got out of the car, have them take their seats again. Play as often as you like or as long as children are interested. You may choose to change the vehicle into a bus, train, or airplane depending on the location to which you are traveling.



## **STORY TIME**

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about forgiveness.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 7, Lesson 36: Jacob and Esau

**PONDER!** Esau forgave Jacob for taking something that belonged to him (Genesis 27:30-35; 32:5; 33:4-11). What does it mean to forgive someone?

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Thank You, Lord, for forgiving each of us. Help us forgive our family members just as Esau forgave his brother Jacob. Amen."

**PLAY!** "Forgive Everyone" Freeze Dance. When people do things that make us sad or angry, God wants us to forgive them. Play some praise music and dance together with your friends or family. When the music stops, shout, "Forgive everyone!" and give someone a hug just like Esau hugged Jacob.

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

**"I will  
watch over you  
wherever**

**You  
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**Genesis 18:15**

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