



At-A-Glance: Ages 10-12  
God of Wonders Part 2: Genesis - Joshua  
Unit 7, Lesson 37

## Life of Jacob: The Family

**Lesson Aim:** To encourage overcoming obstacles and perseverance in relationships with God and family.

### THE WELCOME

**MEET & GREET:** What is the best dream you have ever had?

**GAME:** Family Olympics

### THE WORSHIP THE GOD WHO KEEPS HIS PROMISES

Read Worship Scripture: Psalm 135:3-4.

Sing songs and worship God.

Bless and collect the offering.

Perform High Seas Adventures script or read storybook.

### THE WORD JACOB OVERCOMES IN HIS RELATIONSHIPS

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God had a plan for Jacob and Esau.

Point to Jacob and Esau (Circa 1900 B.C.). **Today, we look at the next twenty years of Jacob's life. He overcame many obstacles. He never gave up building his relationships with his family and God.** Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Genesis 29:25-27; 31:40-42; 32:24-30; 35:1-3, 10-12. Find It First. Highlight Key Verse: Genesis 32:28. Pray.

**Jacob ran away to Haran to work for his Uncle Laban. He fell in love with Laban's younger daughter, Rachel. For permission to marry her, Jacob agreed to work seven years for Laban. But, Laban tricked Jacob into marrying his older daughter, Leah.** Read Genesis 29:25-27.

**Jacob worked seven more years so he could marry Rachel. Later, he ran away with his family and servants. Laban chased and caught up with them. Read what Jacob told Laban.** Read Genesis 31:40-42.

**Jacob sent a message to Esau because he was sorry. He was afraid Esau would still be angry, so he sent many gifts. Then, he sent his family to safety.** Point to Haran and the Jabbok River. **Let's read what happened near the Jabbok River.** Read Genesis 32:24-30.

**The next day, to Jacob's surprise, Esau hugged and kissed him; all was forgiven. Then, God sent Jacob to the place where 20 years**

**earlier he had dreamed of a ladder to heaven. In the dream, God promised to be with Jacob.** Read Genesis 35:1-3, 10-12.

### THE WAY RELATIONSHIPS WITH GOD AND WITH OUR FAMILY

**To gain his father's blessing, Jacob tricked Isaac. Seven years later, Laban tricked Jacob. How do you think Jacob felt? Jacob chose to work another seven years to marry Rachel. What negative choices could he have made instead? (To quit, seek revenge, etc.) Have you ever faced an unfair or discouraging time when you wanted to give up? If so, how does this story encourage you?**

**When Jacob sinned against Esau, he broke their relationship. Esau chose to hold a grudge against him. Twenty years later, what did Jacob do even though he was afraid? (Sent him a message and gifts to show he was sorry.) Have you ever needed courage to ask someone for forgiveness? Esau hugged, kissed, and forgave Jacob. How does Esau's choice to forgive remind you of God? What negative choices could Esau have made? (To refuse to come, to seek revenge, etc.) Is there a broken relationship in your life? What obstacles do you face in mending that relationship? (Fear, guilt, revenge, etc.)**

**Just as Jacob never gave up on building a relationship with Rachel and then with Esau, he never gave up on seeking God's presence and His blessing. When Esau hugged him, Jacob said it was like seeing God's face. What other time did he feel that way? (When he wrestled with the stranger God sent in the night.) In the same way Jacob wrestled physically for God's blessing, we sometimes wrestle with God through our prayers. Who did Jacob say he saw face-to-face as he wrestled? (God.) Jacob would not let go until God blessed him. Have you been waiting for God to bless you?**

**What was Jacob promised in God's blessing? (A community of nations and kings would come from him, the land promised to Abraham and Isaac.) What new name was given to Jacob? (Israel.) Why? (He struggled with God and with men and had overcome.) Jacob's struggles brought him closer to God and his family.**

### CHRIST CONNECTION:

**1900 years later, Paul wrote about the good things God builds in us during hard times.** Reveal Romans 5:3-5. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

**What examples can you find in Jacob's story to show his suffering led to perseverance (never giving up), character (making right choices), and hope? Jacob suffered when tricked by Laban, but he persevered in his work for twenty years which built his character enough for him to approach Esau and to wrestle for God's blessing. When have your struggles built perseverance, character, or hope?**

**THE GOLDEN BOWL:** Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

**FINAL FIVE MINUTES:**

- TREASURE TREAT: Small stone
- W<sup>3</sup> BETWEEN THE LINES Journal Entry #37
- OFFERING OF ART: Esau running to meet Jacob
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

**GOT TIME?**

**SNACK:** Promise Pudding

**GAME:** Jacob's Family Find

**CRAFT:** Promise Balloons

**DISCUSSION:** Jacob's Tithe

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES:** Scrambled Promise,  
Understanding the Promise

**BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW**