

Welcome to...

A WALK THROUGH THE BIBLE

a Children's Devotional Series

Genesis is the starting point and one step at a time our journey ends with Revelation.

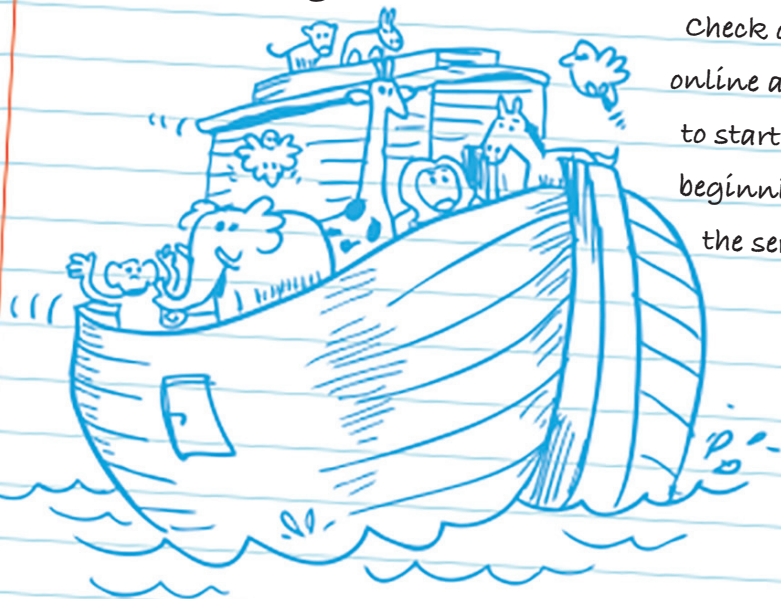
Being a long-distance grandma, I print and mail a copy to my grandchildren; we schedule face time so we can talk. Not only does this provide an opportunity to share my faith, but the time together deepens our relationship and creates lasting memories.

The first section provides an overview of a book from the Bible; a meditation follows using a Scripture from the Bible overview – hopefully facilitating a discussion by asking questions about the covered topic and corresponding verse.

There is also a meditation for toddlers!

Patrice

Check out the
online archives
to start at the
beginning of
the series.



You might want to send a binder to the child so he/she can keep the devotions for reference. It is also a keepsake of time spent with you.

#4

BIBLE OVERVIEW

It is time for Abraham's son, Isaac, to marry. Abraham wants Isaac to marry a woman from a good family, so he sends a servant to the land where he was born to find Isaac a wife.

The servant brings back Rebekah to marry Isaac, and they have twin sons: Esau and Jacob. Isaac loved Esau more, and Rebekah loved Jacob more.

Esau was the older brother (born a few minutes before Jacob) and

entitled to the birthright and blessing.

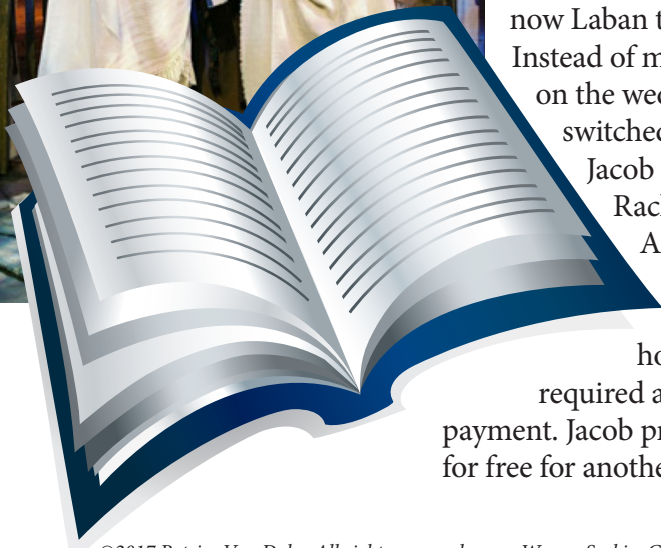
When it came time for Isaac to give Esau his blessing, Rebekah and Jacob tricked Isaac into giving the blessing to Jacob. Esau was angry and threatened to kill his brother, so Jacob fled to live with his Uncle Laban.

It is in this new land that Jacob meets Laban's daughters, and he falls in love with Rachel. In those days the man paid the family a dowry (money or something of value) to marry. After seven years of work to pay the dowry, Jacob was ready to marry Rachel.

Have you ever heard the expression what goes around comes around? Well, that happened to Jacob. Jacob tricked his father and Esau; now Laban tricked him.

Instead of marrying Rachel on the wedding day, Laban switched the bride and Jacob married Leah, Rachel's older sister.

A week later, Rachel and Jacob also married; however, Laban required another dowry payment. Jacob promised to work for free for another seven years!



#2 BIBLE OVERVIEW, CON'T.

Rachel was jealous of Leah because she had sons, and Rachel was childless. In Biblical times women who couldn't have children sometimes gave their servants to their husbands to marry. The servants' children belonged to their mistress.

So Rachel gave her servant Bilhah to Jacob. Not to be outdone Leah gave her servant Zilpah to Jacob. Both servants had sons. Eventually, Rachel had a son of her own.

So at this point, Jacob has eleven sons:

Leah was the mother of Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, and one daughter Dinah

Zilpah (Leah's servant) was the mother of Gad and Asher.

Bilhah (Rachel's servant) was the mother of Dan and Naphtali.

Rachel's son was Joseph.

Tired of living with Laban and all his schemes, Jacob decides to return home, hoping Esau was no longer angry. So he and all his wives and children along with the servants and his livestock travel back to Canaan.

Esau finds out that a caravan is approaching and that it is his brother, Jacob. Esau greets Jacob, and the brothers reconcile.

During the years Jacob was away from home, God worked in Jacob's heart, and he became a better person. At some point, during the trip home God met with Jacob, and blessed him. This encounter changed Jacob's life, and God changed his name too: from Jacob, which means deceiver, to Israel.

Jacob and his family arrive to his homeland, and Rachel was expecting her second child. Jacob stayed in the region, but sometimes moved from one area to another. Jacob's family was on their way to Ephrath (Bethlehem) when Rachel died giving birth to Jacob's twelfth and final son, Benjamin. Descendants of

these twelve sons are God's chosen people, the Jewish race.

Jacob is Abraham's grandson, so this fulfilled God's promise to Abraham to make his descendants a great nation.



Jacob & Esau

MEDITATION

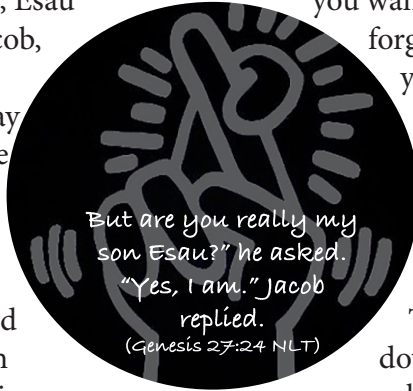
Because Jacob wanted Esau's blessing, he lied to his father and pretended to be his brother, Esau!

How do you think Esau reacted when he found out that Jacob stole his gift? Angry, Esau threatened to kill Jacob, and to escape Esau's wrath, Jacob ran away to live with his Uncle Laban.

Jacob and his mother pulled a fast one, but Rebekah and Jacob never saw each other again. By the time

Jacob returned home, his mother had died. However, God used the time Jacob lived away from home to draw Jacob closer to Him.

Did you ever lie to get something you wanted? You should ask forgiveness for any lies you told. God will forgive you, just like he forgave Jacob!



Look up the following Scriptures (New Living Translation) and write down what the Bible says about lying.



Psalm 34: 11-14: Those who love God will obey him and not speak evil or tell _____.

Proverbs 12:22: The LORD _____ lying lips, but _____ in those that tell the truth.

Micah 6:12: If you continue to lie you can no longer tell the _____.

IN OTHER WORDS, ONCE YOU START LYING IT IS EASY TO LIE AGAIN.



PRAYER



Forgive me God when I do not tell the truth. Help me always to be honest, especially with my dad and mom. Amen.

My name is _____.

I am _____ years old. I am walking through the Bible with _____ on this date _____.

FOR A TODDLER

“But are you really my son Esau?” he asked. “Yes, I am.” Jacob replied.”
(Genesis 27:24 NLT)

Jacob lied to his father and said he was Esau!

Esau and Jacob were brothers. One day their father planned on giving a gift to Esau. Jacob found out and was jealous. So Jacob lied to his father and tricked him into giving him the gift.

How do you think Esau felt when he found out Jacob stole his gift?

If you said he was mad or angry, you are right. He was so angry he wanted to hurt Jacob. So Jacob ran away to live with someone else until Esau wasn't so mad.



That is a sad story, isn't it? Did Jacob and Esau honor their parents?

What did Jacob do wrong?

What did Esau do wrong?

Do you have a brother or sister? Do you sometimes want something that belongs to them?

Did you ever go to a birthday party and feel bad because you aren't getting gifts?

Did you ever lie to your dad or mom so you didn't get into trouble?

That is just like Jacob - not telling your parents the truth hurts your parents and God too. Obeying your mom and dad, and always being truthful, honors God and your parents.



PRAYER



Forgive me God when I do not tell the truth. Help me always to be honest, especially with my dad and mom. Amen.



My name is _____.

I am _____ years old. I am walking through the Bible with _____ on this date

_____.



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