

**Date - November 15, 2020**

**Scripture/Bible Story/Theme**

Isaac and Rebekah, Esau and Jacob

**Children Illustrated Bible** p. 46-48 – last in this unit

God is steadfast and faithful

**\*\*\*\*\*Important note about blessings in Isaac’s time – I thought this was something that needed to be explained to the children.**

During that time a blessing for a family mattered more than anything else. The blessing tied the past to the present and to the future. It could not be retracted and it could not be given again. It was not just about inheriting property, it was that God’s blessing went with the one that had been blessed. The child that was not blessed was on their own. It was expected in those days that the blessing would go to the oldest son. That background information will help the students better understand the significance of the blessing that Isaac gives to the younger son Jacob.

Reference – Walter Brueggemann – *Interpretation: Genesis*

**Workshop Name**

Clothespin Puppets/Story Retelling

**Opening Prayer**

Dear God,

We ask you to help us have patience and courage to wait for your guidance. Amen

**Objectives**

1. Find the stories of Isaac, Rebekah, Esau in Genesis, in the Old Testament.
2. Identify the following characters and place them correctly in the story: Isaac, Rebekah, Esau and Jacob.
3. Discover God's plan at work in the lives of these characters, despite their imperfections.
4. Understand that a loving, forgiving God is at work in their lives.
5. Realize that we need patience, persistence, and courage to wait for God's timing.
6. Discover that the stories are timeless and continue to speak to us today.

**Supplies – Supplies that will be included in the bag are 4 clothespins. These are the so called “old fashioned” kind called “doll clothespins”. You will also receive a lump of Play Dough that you will use as stands for the characters. There will be some fuzzy red fabric and pipe cleaners that you can use as clothing. You will need markers and glue at home.**

**Activity**

Even though this another week in this unit please review the Esau and Jacob story.

Who are the characters? Who are the parents? Who was the oldest? Youngest? Who was the hunter? Who stayed at home? Who was Rebekah’s favorite? Who was Isaac’s favorite?

What was the problem? What had Jacob done? Who talked him into doing that?

Why is Esau upset? What does he plan to do?

How was Isaac tricked?

Why did Jacob let Rebekah talk him into tricking Isaac?

Do you think Jacob wanted to trick his father?

Was Esau right to be angry? Did Esau value his birthright? Why was birthright important?

Was he angry enough to want to kill his brother?

When would the birthright really be worth something? After Isaac died

Have you ever wanted something so much you did something foolish to get it? Explain

Tell the children they will make puppets of the four characters in this story so that they can retell the story to others.

Remind the children that the Bible has a clear physical description of Esau – red and hairy.

To make the puppets, the children will use markers to draw facial features and clothes and hair on the clothespins. The red fuzzy fabric could be used for Esau.

When the puppets are finished, give each child four small balls of Play Dough for the people to “stand in” to hold them upright.

When the four puppets are all done have the kids act out the story.

**Lord's Prayer**