

Book Introduction

Isaac's wife Rebekah couldn't have children but when Isaac prayed for her she became pregnant with twins. While the twins were growing in her womb, God told her that the older one would serve the younger one. Esau was born first and then Jacob came out holding on to his heel.

One day Esau came home really hungry while Jacob was cooking some stew. Jacob got Esau to sell him his birthright of the firstborn for a bowl of stew. Esau did what he wanted rather than what God wanted.

Discussion Questions

Day 1: Who was Isaac? What did God say about the twins Isaac's wife Rebekah would have?

Day 2: What was Jacob like? What was Esau like? To whom would God's promise pass? To whom should it have passed? Why?

Day 3: What is the birthright of the firstborn? What does it mean to scorn? How did Esau scorn his birthright?

Day 4: How did Jacob take advantage of his brother?

Day 5: What did Jacob trick his father into doing? Who had his father wanted to bless? Why do you think that was?

Day 6: How did Jacob get what belonged to Esau? What did God still do for Jacob?

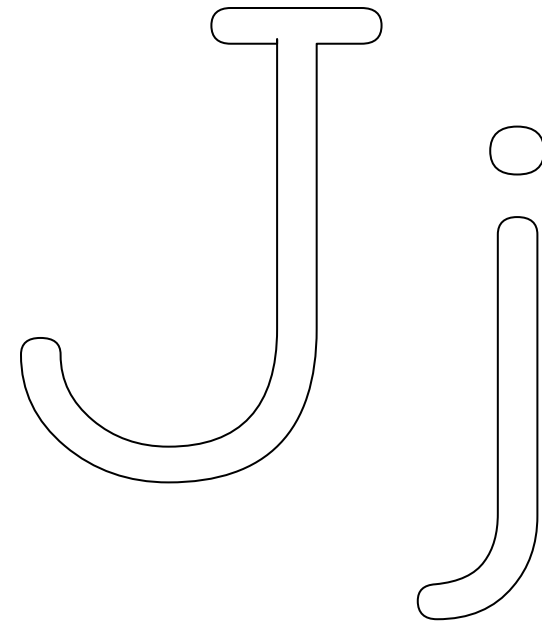
Lesson Rhyme

J—J	Make sign of "J"
Jacob	Hook pinkies together
Took the birthright of his brother	Extend R hand palm up out & draw it back closing it
J—J—Jacob	Same as above
Plotted more sin	Make evil face & put R hand to chin like thinking.
with his mother	Fists apart & brought together



#39

What did Jacob do to Esau?



J—J—Jacob
Took the birthright of his brother
J—J—Jacob
Plotted more sin with his mother

Day 1 Draw a picture of Isaac and his twin sons.

Abraham's son was Isaac
to whom twin sons were born.
When they were in the womb,
God their mother did forewarn.
God said between the two of them
fighting there would be.
One was quite deceptive,
the other was carefree.

Day 6 Draw a picture of Jacob with his family.

So Isaac gave to Jacob,
what to Esau did belong.
Cause Jacob was a trickster
and plotted what was wrong.
God faithfully would bless him,
though Jacob chose to sin .
It was through the sons of Jacob,
the Jewish nation did begin.

Genesis 25:23: ²³ The LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger."

Genesis 27:34-36: ³⁴ When Esau heard his father's words, he burst out with a loud and bitter cry and said to his father, "Bless me—me too, my father!" ³⁵ But he said, "Your brother came deceitfully and took your blessing." ³⁶ Esau said, "Isn't he rightly named Jacob? He has deceived me these two times: He took my birthright, and now he's taken my blessing!" Then he asked, "Haven't you reserved any blessing for me?"

Day 5 Draw a picture of Isaac blessing Jacob.

When Isaac was quite old
and was about to die.
He decided to bless Esau
before he said good-bye.
Isaac couldn't see well
so Jacob and his mother,
Tricked Isaac into thinking
that Jacob was his brother.

Day 2 Draw a picture of Jacob and Esau.

Jacob was the sneaky one,
he plotted to do wrong.
Esau didn't think ahead,
his feelings carried him along.
God's promise made to Abraham,
to Jacob would be passed.
Though it should have gone to Esau,
since Jacob was born last.

Genesis 27:32-33: ³² His father Isaac asked him, "Who are you?" "I am your son," he answered, "your firstborn, Esau."
³³ Isaac trembled violently and said, "Who was it, then, that hunted game and brought it to me? I ate it just before you came and I blessed him—and indeed he will be blessed!"

Genesis 25:25-26: ²⁵ The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. ²⁶ After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when Rebekah gave birth to them.

Day 3

Draw a picture of Jacob giving Esau stew.

One day when Esau came home
he was as hungry as could be.
He saw Jacob cooking and said,
"Give some stew to me."
Jacob said he'd do so
for the right of the firstborn.
Esau was quite foolish,
his birthright he did scorn.

Day 4

Draw a picture of Jacob and his mother.

Most of that which Isaac owned
to Jacob then would go.
That he wasn't very wise,
Esau sure did show.
Jacob was deceptive;
he took advantage of his brother.
Then he plotted more sin
together with his mother.

Genesis 25:29-32: ²⁹ Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished. ³⁰ He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!" (That is why he was also called Edom.) ³¹ Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright."

Genesis 25:33-34: ³³ But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright.