Bible

Genesis 25:19-34; 27:1-40

Memory Verse

“Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds” (Colossians 3:9).

Parent Study

Patriarchs and Prophets, pages 177-182. Do more study about Truthfulness.

Character Quality

Truthfulness – Conformity to fact or reality; exact accordance with that which is or has been or shall be; true state of facts or things; correct opinion

“Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another” (Ephesians 4:25).

Looking Through Nature

An Insect’s Body

1. An Insect’s Body
2. Exoskeleton
3. Muscles
4. Growth of the Exoskeleton I
5. Growth of the Exoskeleton II
6. The Rings of the Exoskeleton

Fiery Searcher

Potato Beetle

Blue Bottle Fly
Research
Children

Isaac and Rebekah loved each other very much. They were growing older. There were no children in the home and they desired to have children, but Rebekah was barren. We are told: “And Isaac entreated [interceded in prayer] the Lord for his wife, because she was barren [could not have a baby]: and the Lord was entreated of him, and Rebekah his wife conceived [became pregnant and was going to have a baby]” (Genesis 25:21).

God told Rebekah that she was not going to have one, but two babies—twins. (Reread Genesis 25:23-26.) Exactly as God said, it came true.

These little babies looked different and acted differently. Esau (which means covered with hair) the oldest, was red, hairy, and active. Jacob (which means to take by the heel) the youngest, came forth holding onto Esau’s heel. He was a more quiet and thoughtful person.

Review

1. What was missing in Isaac’s and Rebekah’s home? (Genesis 25:21)

2. What special prayer did Isaac pray? (Genesis 25:21) What does the word “entreated” mean? What does the word “barren” mean? What does the word “conceived” mean?

3. What did God tell Rebekah about the babies she was going to have? (Genesis 25:23-26) Did it come true?

Nature
An Insect’s Body

An Insect is a very small animal. Its body is divided into three parts. They usually have two antennae, two pairs of wings, and three pairs of legs.

The list of insects is very long, and includes bees, ants, butterflies, moths, cockroaches, houseflies, dragonflies, mosquitoes, grasshoppers, crickets, walking sticks, fleas, and many, many more.

Scientists have named and described about a million kinds of animals. From this list more than 800,000 are insects. Insects live just about everywhere on this earth.

Insects are all related, some even look alike, but each one is different. Each one is unique. This is especially true with people. Esau and Jacob were twins, they did not look exactly alike, and they were different in character, but they were related, they were brothers. Sometimes it seems as though all honeybees look alike, but they are different. They may even
look like twins. Esau was different from Jacob even though they were twins. God said there would be "two manner of people...one...shall be stronger than the other people," and what God said came true.

Some twins do not look alike. They are called fraternal twins. Esau and Jacob were fraternal twins. Twins that look alike are called identical twins. But each is different and unique.

### Remarkable Parent Food

"Truthfulness and frankness should be ever cherished by all who claim to be followers of Christ. God and the right should be the motto. Deal honestly and righteously in this present evil world. Some will be honest when they see that honesty will not endanger their worldly interests; but all who act from this principle will have their names blotted out of the book of life.

"Strict honesty must be cultivated. We can go through the world but once; we cannot come back to rectify any mistakes; therefore every move made should be with godly fear and careful consideration. Honesty and policy will not harmonize; either policy will be subdued, and truth and honesty hold the lines of control, or policy will take the lines, and honesty cease to direct. Both cannot act together; they can never be in agreement. When God makes up His jewels, the true, the frank, the honest, will be His chosen ones, His treasures. Angels are preparing crowns for such; and light from the throne of God will be reflected in its splendor from these star-gemmed diadems." (3 Bible Commentary 1159)

### Remind

1. As you work together as a family, do some chores outside noticing twins in nature.

2. Find two ladybugs, two trees the same kind, two flowers.

### Reinforce

1. Look for insects! Use your insect guide to identify them.

2. Use a container to capture some insects. Identify their parts.

3. Discuss how some twins look alike but are different. One way to be alike is always to be truthful, as God is.

4. For individual activities, stories, and poems, use the booklet entitled, *Children's Bible Activity Book* for this quarter. Say your memory verse!

Northern Mole Cricket
Research
Different

As the twins grew up there was a big difference in how they acted. Esau, the oldest, or first born, lived to hunt and roam in the fields and woods. Jacob, the youngest, or second born, liked to stay close to home.

They were different in how they thought. Esau was selfish and lived for himself each day. He did not like restraint, but liked the life of a hunter, wild and roving. Isaac loved Esau. Jacob was a quiet, peace-loving shepherd, who also tilled the soil. He was thoughtful, diligent, careful, and ever thinking about the future. “His patient perseverance, thrift, and foresight were valued by the mother,” Rebekah. He brought happiness to his mother’s life. She loved Jacob.

These boys were taught that a birthright was very important. It was an inheritance of wealth, but more importantly it meant being the spiritual leader of the family.

Through this family many years later, Jesus the Redeemer was to be born. The one having the birthright would give his life to God’s service. Esau did not value the birthright. He did not want the law of God to rule him. Jacob valued the birthright, but needed to have a change in his heart. He set about trying to work out in his own way the ownership of the birthright.

(Reread Genesis 25:29-34.)

Jacob stole the birthright! God wanted Jacob to trust Him. He would work out the problem of who should receive the birthright. Jacob had traits in his character that he needed to overcome. Two of these areas were stealing and untruthfulness.

One other very important lesson Jacob needed to learn was to trust God. God had said to Rebekah that “the elder [son, Esau] shall serve the younger [son, Jacob].” Jacob did not believe that the promise concerning himself could be fulfilled so long as Esau retained the rights of the firstborn. He did not believe in the truthfulness, of God’s Word.

Review

1. What was Esau’s special skill and what was Jacob’s? (Genesis 25:27)

2. Why did Isaac especially love Esau? Why did Rebekah especially love Jacob?

3. Describe Esau’s character. Describe Jacob’s character.
Nature

Exoskeleton

The body of an insect has a tough outer shell for covering called an exoskeleton. This is lighter and stronger than bone and protects the internal organs.

If Jacob would have trusted God, He would have given him the birthright. As the exoskeleton protects the insect's body so God would have protected the birthright for Jacob. Jacob would never have needed to steal or be untruthful to get it.

The law of God, like the exoskeleton, protects our happiness and it says, "thou shalt not bear false witness..." and "Thou shalt not steal" (Exodus 20:16, 15).

Remind

1. As you work together as a family, do your chores in truthfulness and do not steal.

2. Take the trash out—do not waste time playing and then tell mother an untruth about why you took so long. That would be stealing time and lying about it.

Reinforce

1. Look for insects! Use your insect guide to identify them. Especially look at their exoskeleton.

2. Discuss the lesson and the importance of not stealing or lying. Practice letting God work things out in your life in His own time and way each day.

3. Plan a meal with the menu including lentils and bread. While you eat, discuss the Bible lesson and truthfulness.

4. For individual activities, stories, and poems, use the booklet entitled, Children's Bible Activity Book for this quarter. Say your memory verse!

Remarkable Parent Food

“Esau had a special, strong desire for a particular article of food, and he had gratified self so long that he did not feel the necessity of turning from the tempting, coveted dish. He thought upon it, and made no special effort to restrain his appetite, until its power bore down every other consideration, and controlled him, and he imagined he would suffer great inconvenience, and even death, if he could not have that particular dish. The more he thought upon it, the more his desire strengthened, until his birthright, which was sacred, lost its value and its sacredness. He thought, Well, if I now sell it, I can easily buy it back again....When he sought to purchase it back, even at a great sacrifice on his part, he was not able to do so....He sought for repentance carefully and with tears. It was all in vain. He had despised the blessing, and the Lord removed it from him forever.” (1 Bible Commentary 1094)
Research
Favorite

Esau was Isaac's favorite son. Isaac was blind (blind to God's will about the birthright) and growing older. He thought he might die soon, and as a result, he thought it was time to give the birthright blessing. Usually a feast was made. Isaac decided to perform the solemn ceremony in secret because Rebekah and Jacob did not want Esau to receive the birthright.

Esau was called and asked, "Now therefore take, I pray thee, thy weapons, thy quiver and they bow, and go out to the field, and take me some venison; And make me savoury meat, such as I love, and bring it to me, that I may eat; that my soul may bless thee before I die" (Genesis 27:3-4).

Review

1. Why did Isaac think it was time to give the birthright? (Genesis 27:2)

2. Whom did he call? (Genesis 27:1) Who was against the giving of the birthright to Esau? (Patriarchs and Prophets 179)

3. What should Isaac have done about the birthright? What was the result?

Remind

1. As you work together as a family, be sure your actions are not telling a lie. Father asks a child if he has finished cleaning up a mess, and he smiles, making father think he did when he, had not. Discuss truthfulness, and the importance of it in word and actions.

2. Find a picture of the inside of an insect body to observe the muscles and other parts of its body.
Reinforce

1. Look for insects! Use your insect guide book to identify them.

2. Do a chore that requires using your muscles.

3. Find a picture of the muscles of the body to look at.

4. For individual activities, stories, and poems, use the booklet entitled, Children’s Bible Activity Book for this quarter. Say your memory verse!

Remarkable Parent Food

“Esau passed the crisis of his life without knowing it. What he regarded as a matter worthy of scarcely a thought was the act which revealed the prevailing traits of his character. It showed his choice, showed his true estimate of that which was sacred and which should have been sacredly cherished. He sold his birthright for a small indulgence to meet his present wants, and this determined the after course of his life. To Esau a morsel of meat was more than the service of his Master.” (1 Bible Commentary 1094-1095)

Take heed, parents, that you do not play favorites with your children. Guard against making children the complete focus of your life to the exclusion of a close confiding union with your spouse.

Day 4
Read Genesis 27:5-25
Patriarchs and Prophets 180

Research
Untruthful

“And Rebekah heard when Isaac spake to Esau his son. And Esau went to the field to hunt for venison, and to bring it” (Genesis 27:5).

No sooner had Esau left then Rebekah began to put an untruthful plan into operation. Notice how one lie leads to another:

1) Rebekah told Jacob to get the goats. (Isaac had asked for venison.)

2) Rebekah made a savoury dish. (Isaac had asked for Esau to make it.)

3) Jacob took the dish. (Isaac had asked for Esau to bring it.)

4) Rebekah took Esau’s raiment and put it on Jacob. (Jacob wore the wrong clothes.)

5) Jacob allowed the clothes to be put on him. (He became party to the deception.)

6) Rebekah put the skins of the kids goats upon his hands and neck. (Pretending to be Esau.)

7) Jacob went to his father and said, (1) “I am Esau thy firstborn; (2) I have done according as thou badest me: (3) arise, I pray thee, sit and eat of my venison, that thy soul may bless me” (Genesis 27:19).
Jacob and Rebekah got the birthright, but only received trouble and sorrow for being deceptive. God said that Jacob could have the birthright. He would have given it to him, if he would have waited patiently. Untruthfulness brings sadness, bitterness, separation, and sorrow. Truthfulness brings happiness.

**Review**

1. Who heard of Isaac’s plan to bless Esau? (Genesis 27:5)

2. What did Rebekah do? (Genesis 27:6)

3. What plan did she tell Jacob about? (Genesis 27:7-13) Describe the seven lies Jacob and Rebekah told. (Genesis 27:23)

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The goat’s skin used was from oriental goats, whose black, silk-like hair felt like human hair.

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**Nature**

**Growth of the Exoskeleton I**

As a child, your bones are growing, so you are becoming taller each year. An insect’s exoskeleton does not grow as your bones do.

When the exoskeleton becomes too small for the insect’s body, it is shed. This change is called molting. The insect has a new covering underneath before it leaves its old one behind.

God always has something better in mind for us before He asks us to leave our old life behind. He also had a better way in mind for Jacob to receive the birthright which would not cause Jacob all the suffering and sorrow he brought upon himself.

The changing of the exoskeleton, or molting, reminds me of how Jacob should have left the old garment of sin behind him and put on the new garments of Christ’s righteousness. God says, “Let thy garments be always white” (Ecclesiastes 9:8).

“How much better everything would have turned out if Jacob and Rebekah would have been truthful.
Remind

1. As you work together as a family, remember and discuss this Bible lesson and truthfulness.

2. Help mother put up new curtains, help mother watch baby brother as she sews your new outfit, or help father choose a new shirt to buy. (These chores can help remind you of the garment of Christ’s righteousness that Jacob should have put on.)

Remarkable Parent Food

“Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools” (Romans 1:21-22).

“Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!” (Isaiah 5:20).

Reinforce

1. Look for insects! Use your insect guide book to identify them.

2. It would be really special if you could find a discarded exoskeleton. Find pictures of insects molting and put them on your bulletin board.

3. Find someone who is really needy and, as a family, buy a new garment for them. Leave a book like Steps to Christ with them so they can learn how to put on the robe of Christ’s righteousness.

4. For individual activities, stories, and poems, use the booklet entitled, Children’s Bible Activity Book for this quarter. Say your memory verse!
Day 5
Read Genesis 27:26-29
Patriarchs and Prophets 180

Research
Deception

Jacob drew near to his father. He kissed him and smelled the fragrance of the field from Esau’s clothes on him and said, “the smell of my son is as the smell of a field which the Lord hath blessed” (Genesis 27:27). Water was very important to the people of the Bible lands. To have good crops they would need plenty of rain or dew. Isaac said this in his blessing. The dew of heaven promised in the birthright would include the reviving influence of the Holy Spirit.

Finally, Isaac said that not only his family would honor him but also nations. (If Israel would have been obedient there would have been universal dominion.) He ended with these words, “...cursed be every one that curseth thee, and blessed be he that blesseth thee” (Genesis 27:29). Jacob had sinned against his father, his brother, his own soul, and against God by being untruthful. He should have immediately confessed and told each one that he was sorry. “...Lie not against the truth” (James 3:14).

Review
1. What was the first thing Isaac did to Jacob before he blessed him? What did he smell? What did Isaac say about the field? (Genesis 27:26-27)

2. What was the last part of the blessing? (Genesis 27:29)

3. Who had Jacob sinned against? (Patriarchs and Prophets 180) What should Jacob have done?

Nature
Growth of the Exoskeleton II

Remember, an insect’s exoskeleton is like bones, but stronger than even our bones. When the insect outgrows its exoskeleton, it molts and gets a new one. The new exoskeleton is soft at first and the insect takes in large amounts of air to stretch its new covering before it hardens. Then it will have growing room until it is again time to molt.

Truth is strong and each time we are truthful our character will grow stronger (air—a symbol of the Holy Spirit—helps us to grow). Jacob could have overcome right then, but it was years later before he had the victory.
**Remind**

1. As you work together as a family, remember to be **truthful** in your words and acts toward one another. Is there anything you need to be careful about when speaking or acting?

2. Pray for the Holy Spirit to so fill you that you can cast off the sins of the past and leave them behind forever just as the insect does his old exoskeleton.

**Remarkable Parent Food**

"Let not mercy and **truth** forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart" (Proverbs 3:3).

"For my mouth shall speak **truth**; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips" (Proverbs 8:7).

"He that speaketh **truth** showeth forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit." (Proverbs 12:17, 19).

**Reinforce**

1. Look for insects! Use your insect guide book to identify them.

2. Use your books about insects or encyclopedias and discover how many times grasshoppers, ladybugs, and other insects molt.

3. For individual activities, stories, and poems, use the booklet entitled, *Children’s Bible Activity Book* for this quarter. Say your memory verse!

**Truthfulness is like beautiful butterflies.**
Day 6
Read Genesis 27:30-40
Patriarchs and Prophets 180-182

Research
Separation and Unhappiness

As soon as Jacob left his father's room, Esau came in from hunting. He had prepared savory venison and brought it to his father. Isaac asked, "...Who art thou? And he said, I am thy son, thy firstborn Esau" (Genesis 27:32).

Isaac knew Jacob had stolen the blessing. Esau said to his Father, "...Bless me, even me also, O my father" (Genesis 27:34). Esau wept!

Isaac gave Esau another blessing. You can read about it in Genesis 27:39-40. It was not the birthright blessing. God had promised that to Jacob and Isaac now realized it.

Two times Jacob stole the birthright from Esau. One for a dish of lentils, and now telling an untruth with a dish of savory meat. He did not need to do it. God would have preserved the blessing for Jacob.

Esau hated Jacob. Lying only leads to separation and unhappiness.

"Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds" (Colossians 3:9).

Review
1. When Jacob left his father what happened? (Genesis 27:30-31)
2. What did Isaac ask? (Genesis 27:32)
3. What did Esau ask for? (Genesis 27:34)
   Did Isaac give Esau a blessing? (Genesis 27:39-40) What did Isaac now realize?
   What does untruthfulness lead to?

Nature
The Rings of the Exoskeleton

The exoskeleton of an adult insect is made of about 20 ring-like sections. There are three main parts of their bodies. What are these three parts called? (head, thorax, abdomen)

(Man's nature is also made up of three parts—mental, physical, and spiritual. Esau was living according to his physical nature and was controlled by the desires of his flesh. Jacob rose a little above this level and was controlled by his mind's desire to obtain the birthright. But he failed to rise to the place where a spiritual nature in harmony with God's, controlled his mental and physical natures until after he had repented of his sin in stealing the birthright.)

In conversation we often refer to an insect as having two parts—the head and then the rest of it we refer to as the body. The head is considered the most important part. Jesus is also called the head of the body, the church. The head directs the body. An insect's head reminds me of Jacob. Jacob would be the head or spiritual leader of the family. An insect's body (thorax and abdomen) reminds me of Esau, who would serve his brother as Isaac prophesied because he let his appetite control him.
### Remind

1. As you work together as a family, remember this week’s lessons. Discuss who is the spiritual head of your family (Father). Why?

### Reinforce

1. Look for insects! Use your insect guide book to identify them.

2. Draw pictures of all the insects you have found this week. Color them and send them in a letter to your grandparents. (Father or mother can write the appropriate lessons on them in brief if you cannot print yet.)

3. For individual activities, stories, and poems, use the booklet entitled, *Children’s Bible Activity Book* for this quarter. Say your memory verse!

### Remarkable Parent Food

“To learn of Christ means to receive His grace, which is His character. But those who do not appreciate and utilize the precious opportunities and sacred influences granted them on the earth, are not fitted to take part in the pure devotion of heaven. Their characters are not molded according to the divine similitude. By their own neglect they have formed a chasm which nothing can bridge. Between them and the righteous there is a great gulf fixed.” *(Christ’s Object Lessons 271)*

Parents review your menu, and see if you need to eliminate any rich foods which are too stimulating to the appetite. This will help the children to become masters of the appetite rather than slaves like Esau was.

### Day 7

**Review—Jacob and Esau**

1. Children
2. Different
3. Favorite
4. Untruthful
5. Deception
6. Separation and Unhappiness