

How Jacob Stole a Blessing

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Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're going to continue talking about Jacob and Esau. Remember, they were twins but Esau was born first. Last week we learned that Esau was willing to give up his birthright, or inheritance, for a bowl of Jacob's yummy stew. Well, today, we're going to learn how Jacob tricked Isaac, his father, into giving him the blessing. Now, Isaac was old and he couldn't see well. He knew he was going to die soon. So, he told Esau to go hunt and then prepare a special meal for him and then he would give him the blessing. Well, Jacob and his mom came up with another plan. They made Isaac's favorite meal and then Jacob dressed up like Esau to trick Isaac into thinking he was Esau. Well, it worked. Isaac thought he blessed Esau, his oldest, but he actually blessed Jacob. So, Esau was out of luck. Once the words of blessing were spoken, it was too late to take them back. Now kids, we don't deal with birthrights anymore but we do deal with the power of our words. Let's learn from this story that we should be careful what we say because our words have power to help or hurt others.

Big Idea

Our words have power so we need to be careful what we say

Key Question

What do our words have the power to do?

Memory Verse

Proverbs 18:21 "The tongue can bring death or life."

Classroom Agenda

- (5 min) Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
- (5 min) WARM UP: What's the nicest thing someone has said about you? What are some mean things kids say to each other?** (Tip: Hopefully, we all have examples of nice things people have said to us. But sometimes kids can be very mean. God wants us to only use kind words that make people feel good, not bad.)
- (5 min) PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
- (20 min) LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
- (2 min) RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
- (3 min) KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **Our words can either build others up or tear them down.** (Hopefully we have examples of people that have made us feel good with their kind words but we also have probably been hurt by someone's mean words. We need to treat others the way we want to be treated. We should only say things that make people feel good, not bad. Mean words can really hurt and tear down others.)
 - Bonus Questions:** What can our words do? Why are mean words so hurtful when we hear them? **4-5th** What should you do when you hear someone being mean to someone else? How can mean words affect people?
- (5 min) EXPLORE: Read Ephesians 4:29. What are some examples of words we shouldn't speak to others? What are some examples of kind words we should speak?** (Answer: We shouldn't say crude words that our parents tell us not to say. We shouldn't make fun of how other kids look or act. We shouldn't say anything that hurts someone's feelings. We should say encouraging things like giving compliments that make others feel good.)
- (10 min) PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
- (5 min) CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGODkids.org to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: CREATE YOUR OWN KINDNESS CHAIN

Instructions:

- Give each kid a piece of paper.
- Have each kid come up with an act of kindness they could do for a friend or family member and have them write it nice and big on their paper.
- Then have a kid stand in the front of the room and read their act of kindness. Then, have the next kid come up and do the same. Have that kid link arms with the first. Continue having kids come up to read their act of kindness, each time linking arms with the kid next to them.
- Once all the kids have read their acts of kindness, have the kids notice that they made a human kindness chain and they should remember these acts of kindness and find ways to put them into practice this week.

Supplies needed: Paper (1 sheet per kid) Pens/Pencils

OPTION 2: HIT THE TARGET LESSON REVIEW

Instructions:

- Before playing, tape two lines next to each other on the floor. Then, place 3 paper plates with a number value (page 5) to be the targets at varying distances from the lines (higher point value further away).
- Divide the class into two teams. Have them line up behind each line. Give the first kid in line a beanbag.
- Read a question from below to the first two kids in line. First to raise their hand gets a chance to answer. If correct, they get to toss their beanbag trying to hit one of the targets. Whichever target they land closest to, give them that amount of points for the correct answer. Have those kids go to the end of the line. Keep track of each team's points as you go. Team with the most points at the end, wins.

Questions:

1. What are the names of the twins? (Jacob and Esau)
2. Who was the older brother? (Esau)
3. Who tricked his father into giving a blessing? (Jacob)
4. T or F: The mom helped Jacob trick Isaac. (T)
5. What book is full of God's truth? (Bible)
6. What did Jacob steal? (birthright)
7. Who died on the cross for us? (Jesus)
8. T or F: Our words don't matter. (F)
9. What was the birthright? (inheritance for firstborn)
10. Why did Jesus die for us? (Sin)

Supplies needed: Tape, 3 paper plates, Target values (pg. 5, tape a value to each plate), 2 Beanbags

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BIBLE STORYLINE

How Jacob Stole a Blessing

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When Jacob tricked his dad into speaking a blessing, those words were so important that he couldn't take them back.

Key Points:

- Isaac was old and wanted to _____ his sons. Genesis 27:1-4
- Rebekah and Jacob made a plan to _____ Esau's blessing.
- Jacob _____ his dad and got the blessing of the firstborn. Genesis 27:27-29
- Our words have _____ so we need to be careful what we say. Proverbs 18:21

Memory Verse:

Proverbs 18:21 The tongue can bring death or life.

Talk About It

1. *What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?*
2. *What's the nicest thing someone has said about you? What are some mean things kids say to each other?*
3. *Who did Jacob and his mom trick?*
4. *What did Jacob steal and why?*
5. *Read Ephesians 4:29. What are some examples of words we shouldn't speak to others? What are some examples of kind words we should speak?*
6. *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

Instructions: Color the picture and solve the puzzle.

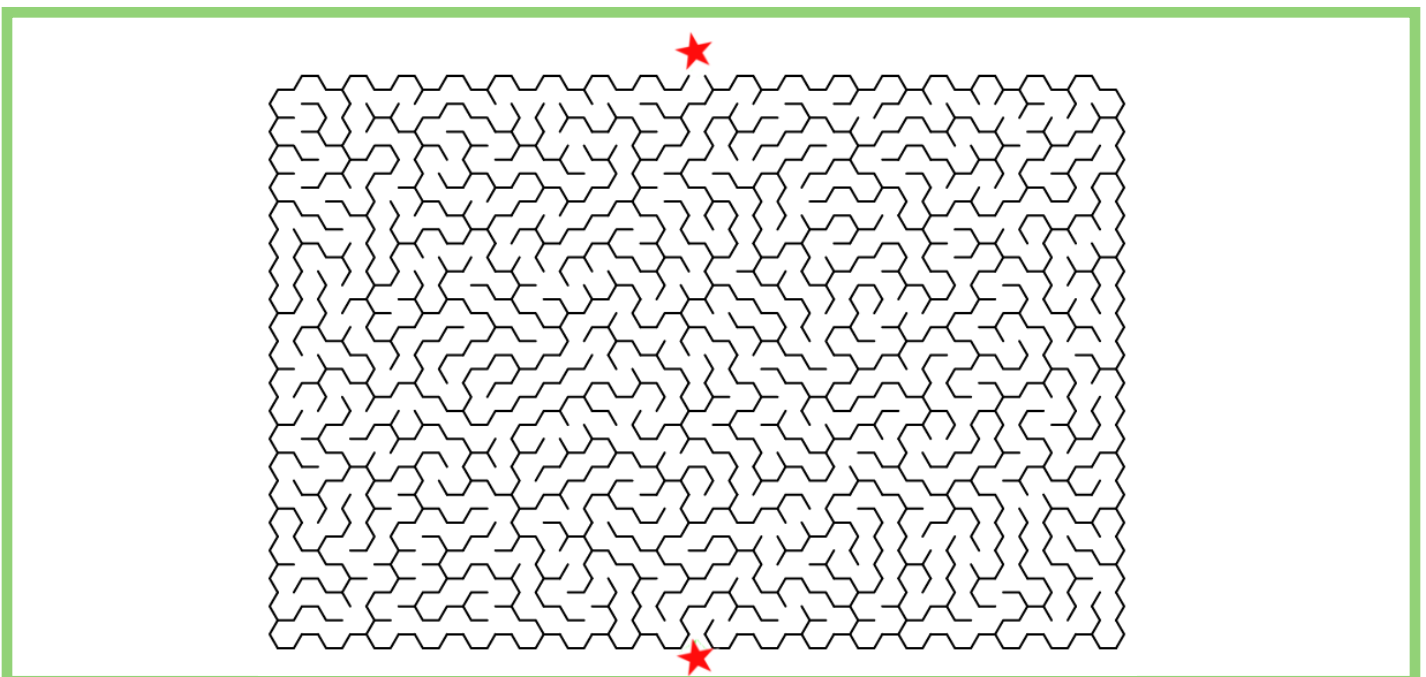


Big Idea

Key Question

Memory Verse

Proverbs 18:___ "The _____
can bring death or _____."





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