

Story 9 : Jacob I (Jacob and Esau)

Main Bible verse
[Genesis 25:33]

**But Jacob said, "First promise to sell me your rights."
So Esau promised to do it. He sold Jacob all the rights
that belonged to him as the oldest son**

Isaac and Rebekah had twin sons. The elder twin was red and his whole body was like a hairy garment.

Isaac named him 'Esau'. His brother, who came out grasping Esau's heel, was named 'Jacob'.

Esau grew up to be a skillful hunter.

On the other hand, Jacob liked to stay at home. He looked after the livestock and helped with the housework.

One day, Jacob was cooking some stew. Esau who had come back from hunting was famished.

Esau said to his brother, "Jacob! Let me have some stew, will you?" Jacob answered, "If you sell me your birthright I will give you some stew." In this way, Esau did not think highly of his birthright and did as Jacob suggested.

A long time had passed and Isaac was old and his eyes were so weak that he could no longer see.

One day, Isaac called for Esau. "Esau, go out to the open country to hunt some wild game for me.

Then I will give you God's blessing before I die." Now Rebekah was listening as Isaac spoke to Esau. Rebekah called for Jacob and spoke to him.

"Jacob, go out to the flock and bring me a young goat so that I can prepare some tasty food for your father. Then take it to your father so that he may give you his blessing before he dies."

Rebekah prepared some tasty food just the way Isaac liked it with the young goat which Jacob brought her.

Then she clothed Jacob with Esau's clothes and covered Jacob's hands and body



with the goatskins.

Jacob took the tasty food prepared by his mother and went to his father.

Jacob was nervous that he might be caught. Jacob's father touched him.

Isaac who was old and whose eyes were too weak did not recognize Jacob.

He believed he was talking to Esau. Isaac ate the food and blessed Jacob.

Sometime later, Esau came in from hunting. He too prepared some tasty food and brought it to his father.

Isaac said to Esau, "I blessed you because you came a little while ago." Esau was so angry.

He hated his younger brother Jacob. And Esau made a promise.

"I will kill Jacob after my father dies."

Esau's mother Rebekah overheard Esau's plan and told Jacob to run away to his uncle's home and live there.



Activity 1.

Answer the following questions.

a. How many sons did Isaac and Rebekah have?

b. What are the names of Isaac and Rebekah's sons?

c. What did Esau sell to Jacob?

- Read and memorize the main Bible verse. (Genesis 25:33)

He sold Jacob all the rights that belonged to him as the oldest son.

Activity 2. Discover what Jacob wanted.

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Jacob wanted his brother's birthright.

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