

YOUTH EDUCATIONAL ADVENTURES

Hand Picked

YE3F · Teacher Edition

Juniors · Year 2: Creation

Christian Educational Ministries — a faithful digital edition of the printed program

A Go-Between

MEMORY VERSE

"There is only one God. And there is only one go-between for God and human beings. He is the man Christ Jesus. He gave himself to pay for the sins of everyone." - I Timothy 2:5-6 (NIrV)

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the students will be able to:

1. State that Melchizedek was the priest of the Most High God.
2. Give some similarities between Melchizedek and Jesus.
3. Tell how Jesus is our defender.
4. Discuss ways that they can represent God to others.

TOPICS & THEMES

Abraham

Chosen

High Priest

Intercessor

Jesus, High Priest

Melchizedek

Tithe

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA students' and teacher's books, attendance and memory verse chart, stars, songbook, music player and music tape/CD, newsprint pad and markers, or chalk board and chalk, paper bag, slips of paper, highway map

PREPARATION

"An important but difficult truth for children at this age to understand is that Jesus was both human and divine" (Teaching on Target by Dr. Robert and lane Choun). This lesson not only emphasizes that Jesus represented God in human form, but also that Melchizedek was a representative of God.

Jesus often used metaphors and parables to explain His truths. In this lesson we will use the metaphor of a defense lawyer or go-between to illustrate how man gains access to God, who is Spirit. Hopefully, using the illustration of a defense lawyer pleading the case of the defendant before a judge will help bring home this idea.

On a chalkboard or newsprint pad, draw a river running from top to bottom in the center of the picture. On one side draw a stick figure to represent a farmer, on the other side a market to sell his vegetables.

Write the following statements on slips of paper, fold and place into a paper bag: 1) I let my dog outside. Someone must have left the gate open. The dog got out of our yard. He went next-door and dug up the neighbor's flower bed. 2) When I came home from school I smelled fresh-baked cookies. I looked around but couldn't find my mom. I ate some of the cookies. Then Mom came in and said the cookies were for a bake sale. 3) The teacher handed out the test papers. She was called out of the room for a few minutes. The boy in front of you turned around and copied your answer. 4) Dad told you to help him clean the garage. You picked up the broom to sweep. The handle of the broom knocked over a can of paint and spilled it. (If your class is large, you may want to make up more statements, or make several copies of the above.)

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Object Lesson - Using a highway map, ask someone to locate the state of Michigan. Next, ask one of the students to locate Florida. Now ask: If you wanted to go from Michigan to Florida by car, find a highway that goes between the two states. (Interstate 75 runs all the way from northern Michigan to the tip of Florida. It is the go-between.) Next, show the picture of the river. Ask: How will the farmer go between his farm and the market where he sells his vegetables? (Draw a bridge across the river or a boat to go across.) Third, what if you were staying on the fourth floor of a hotel. The building caught on fire and you couldn't go down the elevator or stairway. Ask: Can you think of something or someone who would be your go-between to get you to safety? (Fireman or ladder.) Now, suppose God had a message for you or a job for you to do. Since God lives in heaven and you live on earth, He would need a way to go between heaven and earth. Ask: Can you think of a way or go-between?

Priest of God - In Bible times, being a priest was one of the most important jobs a person could have. God Hand-Picked the tribe of Levi to be the priests in the Temple. They were intercessors - the people would go to them with their offerings. The priests would place the offering upon the altar and go into the holy place to offer up prayers for the people.

Pleads Our Case - In a courtroom, the defense lawyer has a most important role. He speaks on behalf of the accused. He tries his best to convince the jury that his client is innocent. He pleads with the judge for mercy, much like the priest in the Temple. Ask: Can you think of reasons why

it is so important that a person has a defense lawyer? (He is trained in the law, knows how to speak persuasively, has access to the evidence, etc. Allow the students to give their reasons.)

Melchizedek- God had spoken to Abram and promised to bless him. But now God was sending a special messenger to bring him bread and wine. This may have been like a Passover service. He sent Melchizedek in a human body. The Scripture tells us that, "Melchizedek has no father or mother. He has no family line. His days have no beginning. His life has no end. He remains a priest forever, just like the Son of God" (Hebrews 7:3 NIV). Ask: Does this sound like an ordinary priest or man? Why? Abram recognized him as God's go-between and gave him tithes.

Jesus, our Go-Between - Our perfect, sinless and holy God sits in heaven as a judge. His law demanded that sin be paid for by the shedding of blood. But, because of His love for us, God sent His Son, Jesus to die in our place (Romans 6:23). He is now at the right hand of God pleading our case (Romans 8:34). Jesus is our High Priest and speaks to God on our behalf. He is our mediator, our defender, our intercessor, our Go-Between.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What was the job of a priest in the Old Testament?
2. How did Abram show that he believed Melchizedek was no ordinary priest?
3. In what ways was Melchizedek like Jesus?
4. In what way is Jesus like a defense lawyer?
5. What is the job of an intercessor?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

To demonstrate how important a go-between is, divide your class into three groups. Group 1 will be the defendant, group 2 the go-between, and group 3 the judge. Allow each person in group 1 to draw a slip of paper from the bag. One at a time, have the students read it to someone in group 2. That person then goes before a judge in group 3 and defends his client. (Notice: If the go-between doesn't listen carefully to the message, he will not be able to properly present it to the judge.) After each person in group 2 has had a turn at presenting his case, rotate-allowing group 2 to become the judge, group 3 to be the defendant, and group 1 to be the go-between.

Assign John 1:1-18 for the students to memorize and recite the tenth week.

SONG

"I Will Sing Of The Mercies Of The Lord Forever" is on page 17 of Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead the students in prayer, thanking God for sending His Son, Jesus, to die for our sins and to be our go-between.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Trust Me!

MEMORY VERSE

"Trust in the Lord and do good. Then you will live in the land and enjoy its food." - Psalm 37:3 (NirV)

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the students will be able to:

1. Name three characteristics of a trustworthy person.
2. Tell what the name "Abraham" means.
3. State that God can be trusted because He cannot lie.
4. Explain why sometimes it doesn't seem like God answers our prayers.

TOPICS & THEMES

Abraham

Creator

Friend

God's Promises

Obedience

Trustworthy

Trusting God

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA students' and teacher's book, attendance and memory verse chart, stars, songbook, cassette/CD player and music tape or CD, pennies

PREPARATION

Juniors have finally reached the age when they are beginning to understand symbolism. Object lessons make sense. They "may no longer display eye-popping amazement and enthusiasm, but the questions they ask indicate that they are thinking about spiritual matters." They "have the skills to learn through self- discovery" (Teaching on Target, Dr. Robert and Jane Choun).

Have enough pennies to give one to each child in class.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Object Lesson - Give each child in class a penny. Ask them to carefully look at the penny. One at a time, have the students draw the penny on a sheet of newsprint (each student drawing one thing: circle, Lincoln's head, date, "LIBERTY", "IN GOD WE TRUST" - (back side); Lincoln Memorial building, "ONE CENT", "E-PLURIBUS UNUM", "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA").

Ask: Why do you think we have "In God we trust" printed on all of our money? (Allow them time to offer their ideas.) Explain that we cannot always trust our money to solve our problems, but we can trust God!

God is Reliable - Abraham and Sarah had been obedient to God. They left their home and family not knowing where they were headed. This surely was not an easy thing to do, but they trusted God. And He guided them every step of the way. There was not a day of their journey that God was not there. He could be counted on.

Now Abraham and Sarah's trust was facing another test. God showed Abraham all the land around him and promised to give it to Abraham and his descendants. The problem was that Abraham didn't have any! He didn't have even one child. Yet, God changed Abram's name to Abraham, which means "father of many." How could this be? Ask: Why did it seem impossible for Abraham and Sarah to have many children? They were both getting very old.

God is Responsible - God had promised Abraham a son, but years and year passed. Nothing happened. They were both getting old. So, she and Abraham decided to help God out. Sarah gave Abraham one of her servants for a wife. Sarah's hope was that the servant would have a child and Sarah and Abraham could raise it. Ask: Do you think God needed anyone's help to do what He promised? God is responsible - He will always do what is right. He had promised to give a son to Sarah and Abraham, not to the servant. Sarah and Abraham got impatient instead of waiting for God's timing. And, because of their impatience, there has been trouble even to this day, between the servant's son's descendants and Sarah's son's descendants.

God is Honest - God made two promises to Abraham: 1) To give him a land, 2) To bless him with many descendants (Genesis 15:5). Whenever God makes a promise, you can count on Him to do what He says. God does not lie (Hebrews 6:18)!

We cannot see into the future, but God can. He knows exactly what is best for us. And, He knows exactly when we need it! When it seems like God is not answering our prayers, it's usually because His thoughts are far above our thoughts and ways (Isaiah 55:8). God knew where the land was and led Abraham to it. He knew the right time to give Abraham a son. And in His time God did keep His promise. He could be trusted!

God wants you and me to trust Him, too. We can trust Him to take care of us and supply what we need. We can trust Him to keep the promises He has made in His Word. We can trust Him to

save us from the penalty for our sins (Romans 6:23). And we can trust Him to give us a place in His Kingdom (John 14:1-3).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. If we say a person is reliable, what do we know about that person? If a person is responsible? If a person is honest?
2. What does the name "Abraham" mean?
3. How do we know that God will do everything He says He will do?
- 4 Why does it sometimes seem like God is not answering our prayers?
5. Name some things that you can trust God for.

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Give each child a sheet of construction paper. Have them fold and cut it into thirds. Ask them to design and decorate three different "coupons" to be given to parents, friends, teacher, etc. The "coupons" should state: You Can Trust Me To: (make my bed each morning, do my homework on time, share with you, not talk out of turn in class, feed the dog (cat), etc.) Allow the children to choose from the suggestions, or make their own promises. When the "coupons" are given away, the students should remember their promise and make every effort to keep it!

SONG

"He's Got The Whole World In His Hands" is on page 54 of Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask one of the children to lead in prayer, thanking God for His promises, and for keeping His promises.

Don't Look Back!

MEMORY VERSE

"A man who still won't obey after being warned many times will suddenly be destroyed. Nothing can save him." - Proverbs 29:1 (NirV)

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the students will be able to:

1. State that making bad choices will lead to bad consequences.
2. Tell why Lot's choice was a bad one.
3. Name some things Lot lost because of his choice.
4. Discuss some choices they will have to make.

TOPICS & THEMES

Choices

God's Judgment

Lot

Obedience

Salt

Sin

Sodom/

Gomorrah

Wise/Wisdom

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA teacher's and students' books, songbook, cassette/CD player and music tape or CD, attendance and memory verse chart, stars

PREPARATION

Junior aged kids need encouragement for self-direction. Girls, especially, are self-conscious and may need to be prompted to get involved in discussions. They want opportunities to make choices and plan projects and offer their opinions. Allow time to hear what they have to say - it might surprise you!

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Object Lesson - Begin today's lesson by showing the class a real diamond (ring) and one that is not real (cubic zirconium). Ask them to choose which one is the most valuable. Sometimes it is difficult to tell the difference between what is good and what is best.

There are times, however, when the difference and choice are obvious. Ask: Which advice do you think would be best for you - your friend's or God's Word? Sometimes we make our choices based on how things look, or what our friends think instead of following God's plan for our lives.

When it comes to matters of our eternal destiny, there is only one right choice. God laid out His directions for our life in His Word. Will you follow His directions? Will you heed His warnings? The choice is up to you. Lot and his wife made some really bad choices and suffered some great losses. Let's see; was it worth it?

It Looked Good - God had been blessing Lot and Abraham in this new land. Their herds were growing. Since there wasn't room for all of them to find enough to eat, the herdsmen began to fight. Abraham took Lot to a high place and told him to choose a place to live. Lot looked around. There were rivers and green pastures near Sodom and Gomorrah. Everything a person would need to prosper was in the valley.

Rotten On The Inside - Abraham had already had dealings with the people of Sodom in Genesis 14. He made an alliance with the rulers of the cities and went to battle with them. But when the going got tough, the men of Sodom and Gomorrah turned tail and ran. Abraham had to go and rescue Lot. Genesis 18:20-21 states that, "the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and . . . their sin is very grievous." The men of the city surrounded Lot's house and demanded that God's messengers be turned over to them. Their hearts were so perverted that they planned to assault and abuse the messengers. Sodom was so bad that not even ten righteous people could be found there. It was a terrible place to live and raise a family!

Lot's Choice Left Him With Little Influence - You would think after living in the city and among its people Lot would have influenced some to worship God and obey His law. But even the men who were promised to marry his daughters wouldn't listen to him. They didn't believe the messengers that said God would destroy Sodom and Gomorrah with fire and brimstone.

The Lure of Luxury - Lot was reluctant to leave Sodom. He and his family had to be dragged to safety by the messengers of God. Ask: What would be your reaction if someone told you that your house was on fire? When the people who worked in the World Trade Center in New York heard that their building was on fire, what did they do? No amount of money, fame or possessions is worth losing your life.

One Last Look - The messengers told Lot and his family to run to the hills. They were not to look back at God's judgment on Sodom and Gomorrah. But, Lot's wife disobeyed. Whether she

missed her things, or heard the cries of her neighbors as the fire fell from heaven, we do not know. But the moment she looked back she was turned to a pillar of salt. She lost her life. Ask: Was it worth it? Luke 9:62 states, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the Kingdom of God." When we take our eyes off the goal, God and His commands, we become unfit.

Heed the Warnings - In the book of Psalms we read that, "The judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether . . . Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward" (Psalm 19:9, 11). Whenever God gives us a warning, the wise choice is to pay attention to the warning. If we continually reject God's salvation we will suffer God's judgment.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Why did Lot choose to live near Sodom and Gomorrah? Why was this a bad choice?
2. Name some things that Lot lost by making a bad choice.
3. What does the example of the farmer plowing a field teach us?
4. What do bad choices lead to?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Make two columns on a newsprint pad. Label one "Good Choice" and the other "Bad Choice." Divide your class into groups of 4 or 5. Give them a few minutes to brainstorm about situations in which they will have to make a choice. Have them write the best ones down. Begin by presenting the following situations, and ask the kids to think of a good and bad choice. Write their answers in the proper column. Then have the students give their own examples of situations with good and bad choices.

1. You forgot to study for your math test. You are stuck on problem number 5. The student sitting beside you gets up to sharpen a pencil. What is your choice?
2. At a birthday party some of the kids are playing with an Ouija board. You know it involves witchcraft, but it seems harmless. What is your choice?
3. Your best friend is mad at another kid in school. He/she has been calling the other kid names and telling lies about him. What is your choice?

SONG

"I Have Decided To Follow Jesus" is on page 23 of Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask if one of the students will lead in prayer, asking God to help them make wise choices, and thanking Him for providing a way of salvation.

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Son of Promise

MEMORY VERSE

"He was absolutely sure that God had the power to do what he had promised." - Romans 4:21 (NIRV)

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the students will be able to:

1. State that "A promise is only as good as the one making the promise."
2. Name four things that God promised to Abraham.
3. Give examples of God's promises to them.
4. Tell how we know that God will keep His promises.

TOPICS & THEMES

Abraham
Descendants
Eternal Life
Forgiveness
God's Omnipotence
God's Promises
Holy Spirit
Inheritance
Isaac
Ishmael
Obedience
Sarah

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA students' and teacher's books, attendance and memory verse chart, stars, songbook, cassette/CD player and music tape or CD

PREPARATION

Enlarge and make enough copies of the apple patterns so that each child in class can have one. Write the following promises on a chalkboard or newsprint pad.

1. promise to _____ for my dad this week.

- 1) buy a new car
- 2) repair the roof
- 3) rake the leaves
- 4) other

2. I promise to give my teacher _____.

- 1) my full attention
- 2) an apple
- 3) a raise
- 4) other

3. When Mom works late, I promise to _____.

- 1) pay her overtime
- 2) help with supper
- 3) complain to her boss
- 4) other

4. If my little sister is sick, I promise to _____.

- 1) make her well
- 2) cheer her up
- 3) read her a story
- 4) other

5. If my friend forgets to study for a test, I promise to _____.

- 1) make sure he gets an A
- 2) offer to let him copy off mine
- 3) help him study before class
- 4) other

6. I promise to _____ my dog this week.

- 1) build a new house for
- 2) feed and water
- 3) teach a new trick to
- 4) other

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Begin this lesson with the following activity. Ask the students how they feel when someone makes them a promise and doesn't keep it. Tell the kids to choose and complete one of the statements and write it on their apple. Tell them to choose a suggestion that they feel they can

keep. They can also make up their own promise for "other." Remember. "A promise is only as good as the one who makes the promise."

God's Promises to Abraham - When God called Abraham to leave his family, his home and the land of his fathers, God promised to lead him, to give him a new land, to bless him and to make of him great nations. It took a lot of faith for Abraham to leave everything he knew and to start out on his journey. But, Abraham thought about Who was making these promises. He "is the King of glory - the Lord who is strong and mighty" (Psalm 24:8 NIV).

Promises Kept - Ask: Is God able to keep His promises? (Ask one of the students to read Jeremiah 32:17.) As Abraham packed his belongings, he had no idea where he was going - but God did. God knew exactly where this new land was and how to get there. Abraham didn't need a map, he was following the One who made the earth. He didn't need to stop and ask directions, God knew the right path to take. God led Abraham all the way. When they arrived, God showed Abraham the mountains, the valleys, the rivers and cities. He promised to give all that land to him and to his descendants. Abraham's herds and flocks grew and multiplied in the new land. Even though he left his home and family, God blessed Abraham in the new land. And after many years of waiting, God gave a son to Abraham and Sarah. He kept his promises!

Our Promises- Ask the students to list as many promises that they can think of that God has made to them. List these on a newsprint pad or blackboard. Put a + next to the ones that have already been fulfilled, and an O next to ones that will be fulfilled in the future. Then ask: How do we know that God will keep these promises? (Ask someone to read 2 Peter 1:3-4 and quote the memory verse.)

Our God has the power to do what He says, He loves you and wants what is best for you, and He doesn't lie. He wants you to trust His promises and obey His commands. Then He will lead you through this life (Proverbs 3:5- 6). He will give you everything you need to live a godly life (2 Peter 1:2). He will bless those who are faithful in serving Him (Proverbs 28:20). And, He has given us the gift of eternal life through His Son, Jesus (Romans 6:23).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. How can we know whether or not we can trust someone to keep his promises?
2. Name four things that God promised to Abraham
3. Explain how God kept His promise to make great nations from Abraham's descendants.
4. How do we know that God will keep His promises to us?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

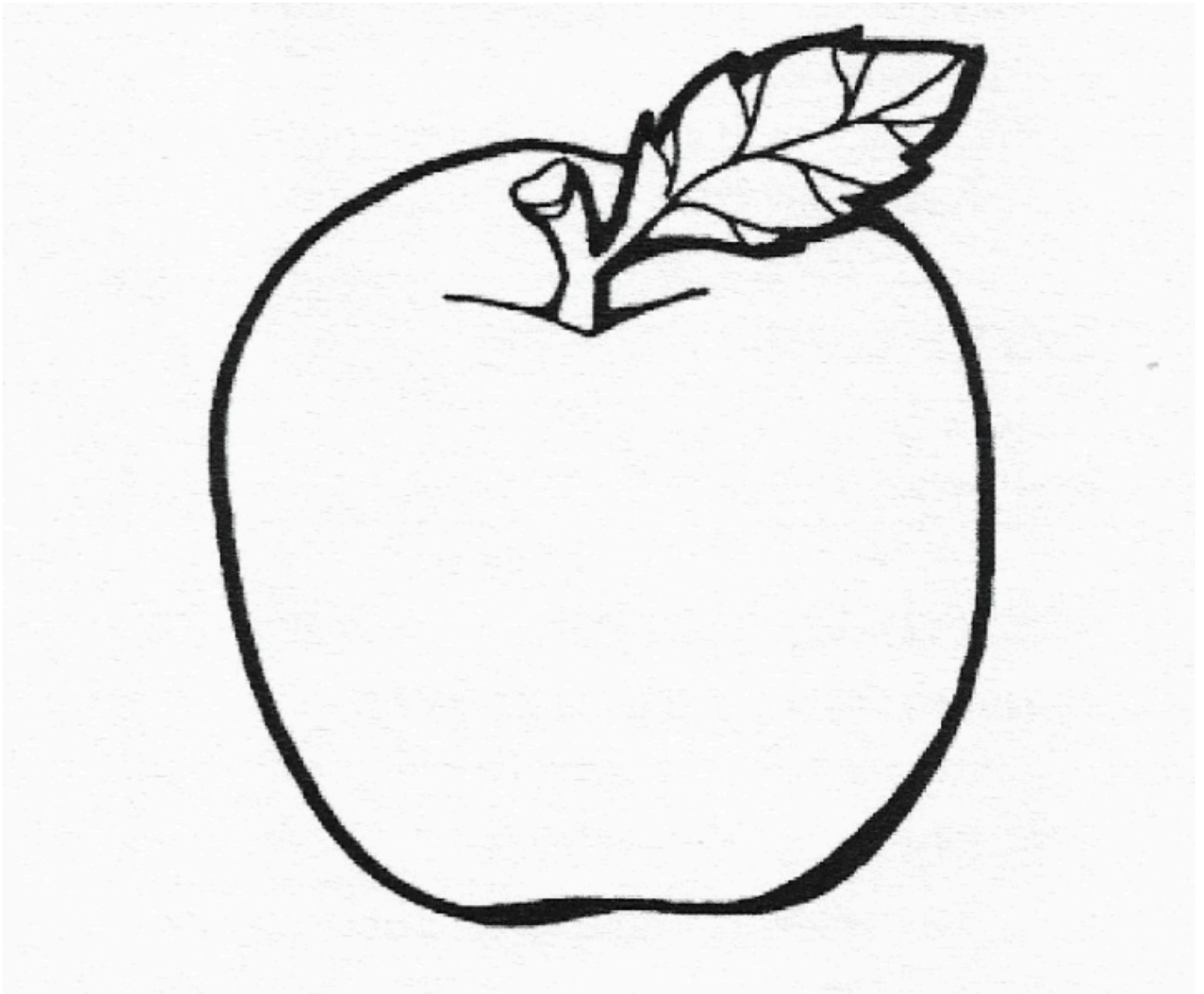
Using the apples from the beginning of the lesson, discuss some of the promises the kids chose. Ask the class if each is a promise that can be kept. Is it within their power to fulfill the promise? (Some student may want to change their promise.) Tell them to take their apple home and give it to the appropriate person.

SONG

"My God Is So Big" is on page 14 of Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Remind the students that God keeps His promises and can be trusted. Encourage them to thank God for His blessings, His promises, and His involvement in their lives.



Passed the Test!

MEMORY VERSE

"Abraham had faith. So he offered Isaac as a sacrifice . . . Abraham believed that God could raise the dead " - Hebrews 11:17, 19 (NIrV)

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the students will be able to:

1. Explain why God asked Abraham to offer Isaac as a sacrifice.
2. State that Abraham trusted God to bring Isaac back to life, if need be.
3. Tell what God sent as a substitute sacrifice in place of Isaac.
4. State that Abraham's faith in God proved that he Passed the Test.

TOPICS & THEMES

Abraham

God's Commands

God's Gifts

God's Plan

God's Promise

God's Provision

Isaac

Loving God

Obedience

Putting God First

Sacrifice and Offerings to

God

Test

Trusting God

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA students' and teacher's books, attendance and memory verse chart, stars, songbook, cassette/CD player and music tape or CD

PREPARATION

Junior-aged students are familiar with tests in school. The teacher gives a test to see how well the students understand and can apply the lessons being taught. It is a means of grading their achievement. If a student is to pass the test, he must pay close attention to the teacher, study the textbook and answer honestly.

As in Abraham's case, God sometimes puts our faith to the test. It is His way of revealing to us whether our faith is strong or weak. If we are to pass this test, we must pay close attention to Jesus, the great Teacher, we must study His textbook, the Bible, and honestly do what He commands. Everyone has bad days - days when our grade would be an "F" for failure. But we can learn from Abraham to believe God and obey.

Before you come to class, make enough copies of the activity in the student's book for lesson five.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

As you begin this class, tell the students that the first thing you will be doing today is taking a test. Pass out the Activity sheets and place them face down. Tell the students that this test will determine what grade they will receive for the class. Remind them not to look around at what anyone else has written - that would be cheating. Say: "Okay, ready, be . . . Oh no, this isn't school." Tell them to turn their "test" paper over. They should recognize it as the activity they have already completed.

On a chalkboard or newsprint pad, number from 1 - 6 corresponding to the tests. Read each one aloud, asking the students to raise their hand if they gave themselves an "A." "B." etc. Write the number of students receiving each grade beside the numbers. Discuss the grades, and how many of the students passed and how many failed (Not who passed or failed).

Troubling Conversation - Abraham had waited until he was one hundred years old for God to fulfill His promise of a son. Isaac was beloved. He brought joy and laughter. He was the hope for future generations. Now God was telling Abraham to offer Isaac as a sacrifice. Ask: How do you think Abraham felt when he heard God's command? (Allow them to give their opinions.) It meant death! The death of a dream. The death of a hope. The death of a promise? Surely not - God would not and could not lie.

Absolute Trust- Nowhere do we see that Abraham argued with God. Instead, he had confidence that God would either provide a substitute offering, or that if need be, He could raise Isaac up from the dead. Either way, he told the young men that he and Isaac would return to them again. Ask: What do you think gave Abraham such confidence? Abraham knew God and trusted that God would not ask him to do anything that was not in his best interest.

Isaac's Trust - Some scholars state that Isaac was a young man, capable of resisting Abraham's attempt at putting him on the altar. Isaac did ask the question, "Where is the offering?" but he

was submissive to God's plan for his life. He trusted his earthly father and His Heavenly Father (See Romans 10:1-3).

God's Provision - When Abraham proved that he loved God more than anything else in the world, God revealed His sacrificial ram in the bushes. The sacrifice was provided, but not revealed until Abraham Passed the Test. (See Isaiah 53:3-7) Ask: How can we compare the ram in the bushes with Jesus as the sacrificial lamb?

Your Tests - James 1:12 states, "Blessed is the man who keeps on going when times are hard. After he has come through them, he will receive a crown. The crown is life itself. God has promised it to those who love him" (NIrV). Will you Pass the Test?

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Why was God's command to take Isaac up the mountain and make an offering troubling to Abraham?
2. How did Abraham respond to God's command?
3. What question did Isaac ask of his father, Abraham?
4. What was Abraham's reply?
5. What did God send as a substitute sacrifice?
6. What proved that Abraham Passed the Test?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

The Activity for this lesson is at the beginning, under How to Teach This Lesson.

SONG

"Dare To Be A Daniel" is on page 9 of Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask that God will help the students to face the tests of their life with faith in Him and His promises and teach them how to trust Him.

Chosen Bride

MEMORY VERSE

"But God chose you to be his people. You are royal priests. You are a holy nation. You are a people who belong to God." - 1 Peter 2:9a (NIRV)

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the students will be able to:

1. Give the reason Abraham sent Eliezer back to his homeland to find a bride for Isaac.
2. State how Eliezer knew when he found the right one.
3. Tell how they can show that they belong to God's family.

TOPICS & THEMES

Bride

Chosen

God's Provision

Isaac

Loving God

Obedience

Rebekah

Sign

Trusting God

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA students' and teacher's books, attendance and memory verse chart, stars, songbook, cassette/CD player and music tape or CD, large sheet of paper, crayons, markers, strips of paper, chalkboard or newsprint pad, chalk or marker

PREPARATION

Taking the time to set up the lesson and motivate your students will help them focus on how this content connects to their lives. Simply presenting information doesn't guarantee that learning takes place. The students will lose their interest and won't grasp the Bible facts you are presenting if they do not see that the information is relevant to their lives.

Write the following Scripture references on strips of paper: Proverbs 15:13; Proverbs 6:20-21; 1 Corinthians 11:15; 1 Peter 3:5; Proverbs 31:13; Proverbs 31:20; Proverbs 31:17; Proverbs 31:22; Proverbs 31:26. Make a life-sized paper silhouette of a woman. (This can be placed on the table, floor, or attached to the wall).

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Begin the lesson by telling the students that they will be "dressing" and preparing this "bride" so she will be suitable for Isaac. Allow each student to choose at least one Scripture verse to look up and discover something with which to adorn the bride (smaller classes can choose several). You can allow them to work in groups or as individuals. Supply them with markers and crayons. They should read the verse, discover the adornment, draw or color it in, write out what they have drawn. Example: She will need a face (friendly and cheerful, Proverbs 15:13).

Hand Picked - In Bible times, and in some countries still today, marriages were arranged by the family. Men and women didn't date, then fall in love, and get married. Much thought and planning went into choosing the right person. Often the bride and groom didn't even see each other until the time of their marriage. Ask: Does that seem strange to you? Do you think this is a good or bad idea? (Allow time for discussion.)

Things That Matter Most - When it came time to choose a bride for Isaac, Abraham had specific ideas about who his son should marry. First of all, Abraham told his servant to promise not to let Isaac marry any of the women who lived near them. Abraham knew that those women didn't worship the true God, they worshiped idols. Isaac was a special son. God had promised to bless his children and make many great nations out of him. Abraham knew Isaac would need a wife who loved and worshiped God as he did. How she looked, how well she dressed or how important her family was were not as important as how much she loved God.

Not Just Any Woman - Abraham sent Eliezer back to his homeland, to the land of his relatives. He knew that they believed and worshiped God. He made Eliezer promise to bring a bride back for Isaac. That meant that the woman had to be willing to leave her family and everything familiar to her and go to a new home.

Eliezer Needed Help! - Eliezer knew that finding such a woman would be like finding a needle in a haystack. He didn't know anyone in Abraham's homeland. But he knew someone who could help him. Eliezer prayed and asked God to direct him.

How Will I Know? - Eliezer arrived at the well at the time when the women gathered to draw water. Rebekah was probably not the only woman there. How could he be sure he chose the right girl? Eliezer laid out these conditions: "I will ask her for a drink of water. If she gives me a drink and offers to give a drink to my camels also, then I will know she is the one."

She's The One! - Not only did Rebekah give water to Eliezer and his camels, she was the daughter of one of Abraham's relatives. Eliezer gave gifts to Rebekah and her father. And when she was asked if she would go back to marry Isaac, she said yes. God had answered Eliezer's prayer and led him to right girl.

Chosen By God - Rebekah was chosen by God to be Isaac's wife. She was chosen by Eliezer because of God's leading. Rebekah made the choice to do what God wanted. If you believe and trust in God, you become one of His chosen people - you belong to Him (I Peter 2:9). You will live with Him in His Kingdom. It doesn't matter how rich you are or how smart - God will make you the person you need to be (I Corinthians 1:24-31).

Show God You Love Him - Ask: What are some ways that you can show that you love God? (List these on the chalkboard or newsprint pad.)

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. How was choosing a bride different in Bible times from the way we do it in our country?
2. Why was Abraham so careful to send Eliezer back to his homeland to find Isaac a bride?
3. How did Eliezer know when he found the right girl?
4. Who chose the bride for Isaac?
5. How can God use you if you don't think you are very smart?
6. How can you show God that you love Him?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

The Activity was completed at the beginning of the lesson.

SONG

"I Am A C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N" is on page 52 of Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Direct the students to thank God for making them His children, and asking for help to show that they love Him by caring for others.

Playing Favorites

MEMORY VERSE

"Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism." -
Colossians 3:25

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the students will be able to:

1. Tell why the birthright and the blessing were so important.
2. Describe how Jacob, the younger boy, ended up with the birthright and the blessing.
3. Compare what Jacob lost with what he gained.
4. State that God doesn't play favorites - He is no respecter of persons.

TOPICS & THEMES

Birthright

Blessings

Choices

Esau

Firstborn

God's Gifts

God's Plan

Jacob

Obedience

Trusting God

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA students' and teacher's books, attendance and memory verse chart, stars, songbook, cassette/CD player and music tape/CD, bowl, paper strips, treats, paper and crayons or markers, newsprint pad

PREPARATION

Children today are faced with choices that affect their lives right now and could affect them far into the future. These choices are often difficult and are compounded by adult or peer pressure, and by social influences. They have already experienced the fact that life isn't always fair.

Today's lesson is an example of what happens when you make bad choices. It shows that even adults make bad choices. But, God loves us all. He is fair. He is not a respecter of persons.

Before you come to class, write the following "What if" questions on strips of paper and place them in a bowl: 1) What if Jacob had not asked Esau to sell his birthright, but had just given him some stew? 2) What if Esau had loved and believed in God? 3) What if Isaac had loved his boys equally? 4) What if Rebekah had not played such a trick on Isaac?

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Object Lesson - Tell the class that you want to try an experiment. Divide the class into three groups. Give one group a reading assignment (Genesis 25:20-28). Tell the second group to draw a picture of Jacob and Esau based on what they learned from their student book. The third group can sit and talk quietly, draw or do whatever they want. Allow about five minutes for this project. At the end of the five minutes, praise the third group for doing so well on their project. Give everyone in group three a treat, saying nothing about the other two groups.

Now ask groups one and two: How did you feel when I gave a treat to group three? Do you think they deserved a treat? Why or why not? Do you think it was fair that you did your work but didn't get a treat? Explain that this was an experiment to show how you feel when someone plays favorites. (Give the rest of the class a treat.)

God Blesses - Isaac and Rebekah wanted a family, but Rebekah couldn't have children. They prayed that God would give them a child. And God did more than they expected - they had twins! Ask: What can you tell me about twins? (Write their responses on a chalkboard or newsprint pad.) Do twins always look alike?

Alike But Different - The twins had the same parents and shared the same birthday. They were both taught about God and His promises to their family. God promised to make many great nations from their descendants. He would give them a land of their own. And the Savior of the world would later be born through the line of Isaac. But there were differences. Esau chose his wife from the people who didn't love God. He loved to be outdoors, hunting and in the fields. Jacob stayed near home and tended the sheep and goats. Ask: In what way did the boys look different?

A Fair Trade? - Jacob had a pot of stew. Esau had been out in the field hunting. The smell of the stew made him very hungry. Jacob saw his chance to win the right to Esau's inheritance - the birthright. He offered to sell Esau a bowl of stew in exchange for the birthright. Ask: Do you think this was a fair trade? Why or why not? Do you think Esau saw how valuable his birthright was? Ask one of the students to read Matthew 6:33.

Playing Favorites - Ask: Why did Isaac love Esau the best? Why do you think Rebekah loved Jacob more than Esau? Isaac was getting very old. To which son did he want to pass a special blessing? Isaac sent Esau out to hunt for some wild game. He told him to cook it just the way he liked it. But, Rebekah heard the plan. She had a plan of her own.

Sneaky Trick -Rebekah made a special meal for Isaac from two of the goats in Jacob's flock. She disguised Jacob so that he would appear to be Esau. She told him to lie to his father in order to receive the blessing.

Gains and Losses - Jacob was successful in fooling Isaac. He gained the blessing. But, think about what he lost. Ask: How do you think God felt about what Jacob did? Do you think Jacob showed that he loved God? What about his relationship with his brother. Esau? Do you think Isaac trusted Jacob after what he did?

God Doesn't Play Favorites - God sent Jesus to earth to pay for the sins of everyone. He doesn't just love the Jews or the Americans. He doesn't care what color of skin a person has. He doesn't love boys more than girls. God loves everyone (Acts 10:34-35). He doesn't play favorites - He is not a respecter of persons.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Why was having the birthright so important to Jacob? (It gave him all of the inheritance that the older child was to have.)
2. Why was getting Esau's blessing so important to Jacob? (This blessing was so great it extends far beyond Jacob's life time to his descendants even to the end of time.)
3. How did Jacob, the younger end up with the birthright?
4. What did Jacob gain? What did he lose by deceiving his father?
5. If Jacob had trusted God and waited on him, would he have received the birthright and blessing anyway? Why? (It was in God's plan that the older was to serve the younger.)

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Divide your class into four groups. Allow each group to pick a "What If" question from the bowl (Smaller classes may have two groups and choose two questions). Have the groups brainstorm about how this story could have been different if. . . Then allow each group to present their ideas to the class.

SONG

"Jesus Loves Even Me" is on page 8 of Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask if one of the children would like to lead in prayer, thanking God for not Playing Favorites.
Ask God to help them treat everyone the same and not play favorites.

What a Dream!

MEMORY VERSE

"I am with you. I will watch over you everywhere you go. . . I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." - Genesis 28:15 (NIrV)

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the students will be able to:

1. Tell the story of "Jacob's Ladder."
2. Discuss that the promise God made to Jacob in that dream has far reaching significance extending even to the end times.
3. Explain why Esau didn't receive the greatest blessing.
4. Talk about where the other eleven nations of Israel might be today.

TOPICS & THEMES

Blessings

Consequences of Sin

Descendants

Dream

God's Promises

Israel

Lost Ten Tribes

Obedience

Perseverance

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA students' and teacher's books, attendance and memory verse charts, stars, songbook, cassette tape or CD, tape/CD player, newsprint pad, marker, globe, white construction paper, crayons, pencils, glue, glitter

PREPARATION

When given the choice, students will usually be more responsive when the teacher makes a topic seem relevant. By asking the right questions in the right sequence, you will encourage these

students to come to their own conclusions. Getting the kids involved in the issue being studied will channel discussions toward helpful conclusions.

It's easy to dismiss the Bible as being "spiritual" without concrete and specific relevance to what is happening with nations and peoples in today's world. Today's lesson teaches that sin and obedience have lasting consequences and that God rewards tenacity. Esau putting even a necessary item such as food ahead of his birthright cost him dearly. Jacob had the foresight to see the value of getting not only the birthright, but receiving the enormous blessing Isaac passed on to his son. He tenaciously pursued both even to the point of using deception. However, the will of God, expressed before the two sons were born, was brought to full realization: "The older will serve the younger" (Genesis 25:23).

As you study to teach this lesson, notice how the characters are developed and watch for things in the narrative that take you behind the scene. A suspenseful story is told while important lessons are being taught.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Open the class with prayer. Then ask the students to define "a dream come true." Write their answers on newsprint or white board. (This not only validates responses, it gives the others time to think of an answer.) Then review what has happened in Jacob's story leading up to Genesis 28: Esau and Jacob born to Rebekah and Isaac; Sibling rivalry; Esau selling birthright; Jacob tricking Isaac into giving him the greater blessing; Esau's hatred for Jacob. Have the students help you review the story.

Esau Sells His Birthright - The Consequences - Esau didn't have any idea how valuable his birthright really was - until he heard the blessing that his father Isaac gave to Jacob. Even though he had disregarded his birthright and sold it for a bowl of stew, Esau still hated Jacob for his trickery and for receiving the greater blessing. Once Isaac blessed Jacob, it could not be taken back. After the blessing was passed on, Esau begged his father for a blessing. Isaac said, "For a time you will serve your brother, but you will finally shake loose from him and be free." Esau hated Jacob so much he wanted to kill him.

Jacob's Journey - Jacob was forced to leave his home and family because of his own trickery. So his father sent him away to find a wife. He left Beersheba and made his way to Haran.

Jacob's Dream - Ask for a volunteer to tell the story of Jacob's dream. Get the students involved by asking such questions as, how many angels do they think were on the ladder or staircase? Who was at the top of the stairs? Can you think of anything with which to compare this dream? What did God say to Jacob in this dream? What was the purpose of this dream? Did Jacob's dream come true? How? Was this the only time that God appeared to Jacob? What did God say

this time? (I will cause you "to multiply and to become a great nation, yes, many nations; many kings shall be among your descendants.") Why was God blessing Jacob by making his descendants to be many nations and many kings? Has the nation of Israel ever had kings?

Jacob's Sons - How many sons did Jacob have? Jesus was a descendant of which son? The Jews make up which nation on the earth today? Do you think there are other nations today that are Jacob's descendants as well? Did we learn anything in our lesson that could help us to find some of them? What could it have been? (Look for nations where other nations receive a blessing from them - that they do good things for other nations.)

Why Did God Promise This Blessing to Jacob? - (Because Abraham, Isaac and Jacob obeyed God. God thinks and plans big and long!) What should this lesson cause us to remember? (That God rewards obedience in a big way and for a long time.)

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What did Jacob do to receive a greater blessing than Esau?
2. How many tribes of Israel are there? Which is the only one that everyone knows where it is today? (Judah - the nation of Israel). Has it ever had any kings?
3. What clue was given in the Bible to help you find some of the other tribes? (All the nations of the earth would be blessed through them. Look for nations who help other nations).

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Give each student a white sheet of construction paper, a pencil, and favorite coloring tools. Have them draw Jacob sleeping with a rock as his pillow and a staircase or ladder going from earth to heaven. On each stair or rung of the ladder, have them write one of the tribes of Israel. When they have finished it, they can color it and add glitter for stars and the moon in the night sky.

SONG

"Every Promise In The Book Is Mine" is on page 15 of Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask for a volunteer to lead in prayer thanking God for Abraham, Isaac and Jacob's obedience and for the blessings God gave them. Ask God to help us understand how important this story is for us today.

[illegible][illegible]

Sons by the Dozen!

MEMORY VERSE

"Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from Him" - Psalm 127:3 (NIV)

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the students will be able to:

1. Describe how Jacob was tricked by Laban.
2. Explain why it was so important for an Israeli woman to have sons.
3. Tell how many sons Jacob had.
4. State what God thinks about children (Recite their memory verse.).

TOPICS & THEMES

Abortion

Blessings

Bride

Descendants

God's Family

God's Promises

Inheritance

Leah

Obedience

Rachel

Remember

Tithe

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA students' and teacher's books, attendance and memory verse charts, stars, songbook, cassette/CD player and music tape or CD, newsprint pad and marker, or chalkboard and chalk, larger and smaller tree branches, knife

PREPARATION

Before you come to class, enlarge and print enough copies of the family tree so that each child will have one, plus one for the teacher. Fill in the names on your family tree, going back as far as

you can. Draw a larger family tree on the chalkboard or newsprint pad. Cut a branch from a tree, and a smaller branch from another tree. Using a knife, cut a small slit through the bark and into the marrow of the larger branch. Cut one end of the smaller branch into a chisel point.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Family Tree - Show the class your own family tree. Show them how each generation can be traced. Using the enlarged family tree, trace Jacob's generations backward, and list the names of his twelve sons. Explain that Jesus was a branch of that family tree - He was born of Mary, who was descended from Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Judah.

Jacob Leaves Haran - Have the students review the story of Jacob's dream. The next morning Jacob got up early and set up his stone headrest as a memorial pillar, and poured olive oil over it. He named the place "Bethel" ("House of God"). He promised God that if He would protect him and provide for him that he would choose Jehovah for his God and give Him a tenth of everything God gave him. Do you think it is important that we give God a tenth of everything He gives us?

The Love Story - Have the students act out or let them tell the story of how Jacob and Rachel met, what she did, how she looked, what Jacob was willing to do to have her for his wife.

Pay-back Time! - Ask: What did Laban agree for Jacob to do to have Rachel for his wife? What was the custom that caused Laban to trick Jacob? How did Laban trick Jacob? Was this right? Why do you think Jacob might have been tricked? Because he had tricked Esau out of his blessing.) What can we learn from this? (We reap what we sow.)

Children Are Important - The memory verse, Psalm 127:5, states that "Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from Him" (NIRV). In order for a family line to perpetuate, children must be born. They are part of the heritage. In the case of Isaac, it was through his lineage that the Savior of the world would be born. It was the hope of every Jewish woman that she might be the one to bear this Child. Therefore, the ability to bear children was a reward from God.

Passing On The Heritage - Jacob became the recipient of the blessing first bestowed on Abraham. Ask: What promise did God make to them? He promised to be with him always, and to give him a land for his own possession. He promised to bless him with many children and descendants - to make many great nations and kings from his offspring. God passed this blessing from generation to generation.

Sons By The Dozen - Jacob had sons from A- Z. (Asher, Benjamin, Dan, Gad), (Issachar, Joseph, Judah, Levi), (Naphtali, Reuben, Simeon, Zebulun). Challenge the kids to learn these names. Each is significant in the history of God's people. Write the first letter of each name on the chalkboard. Divide the twelve names into three groups of four names. (The first four will be

fairly easy.) Repeat the names in each group several times. Then divide your class into three groups and assign a group of names to each class group. See if they can memorize the names in their group.

Part Of God's Family - Jesus made it possible for each of us to become part of God's family. Then we will have more than twelve brothers and sisters. Have one of the kids read John 1:11-12 aloud. Also read Galatians 4:4-5. By believing and accepting Christ as our Savior we become a son or daughter in God's family. We have all the privileges of a child of the King!

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. In what way did Jacob's uncle Laban trick him?
2. Why was it so important for Israeli women to have sons?
3. How can we be born into God's family?
4. How many of Jacob's twelve sons can you name?
5. What does God think about children?
6. How can we pass our Christian heritage on to others?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

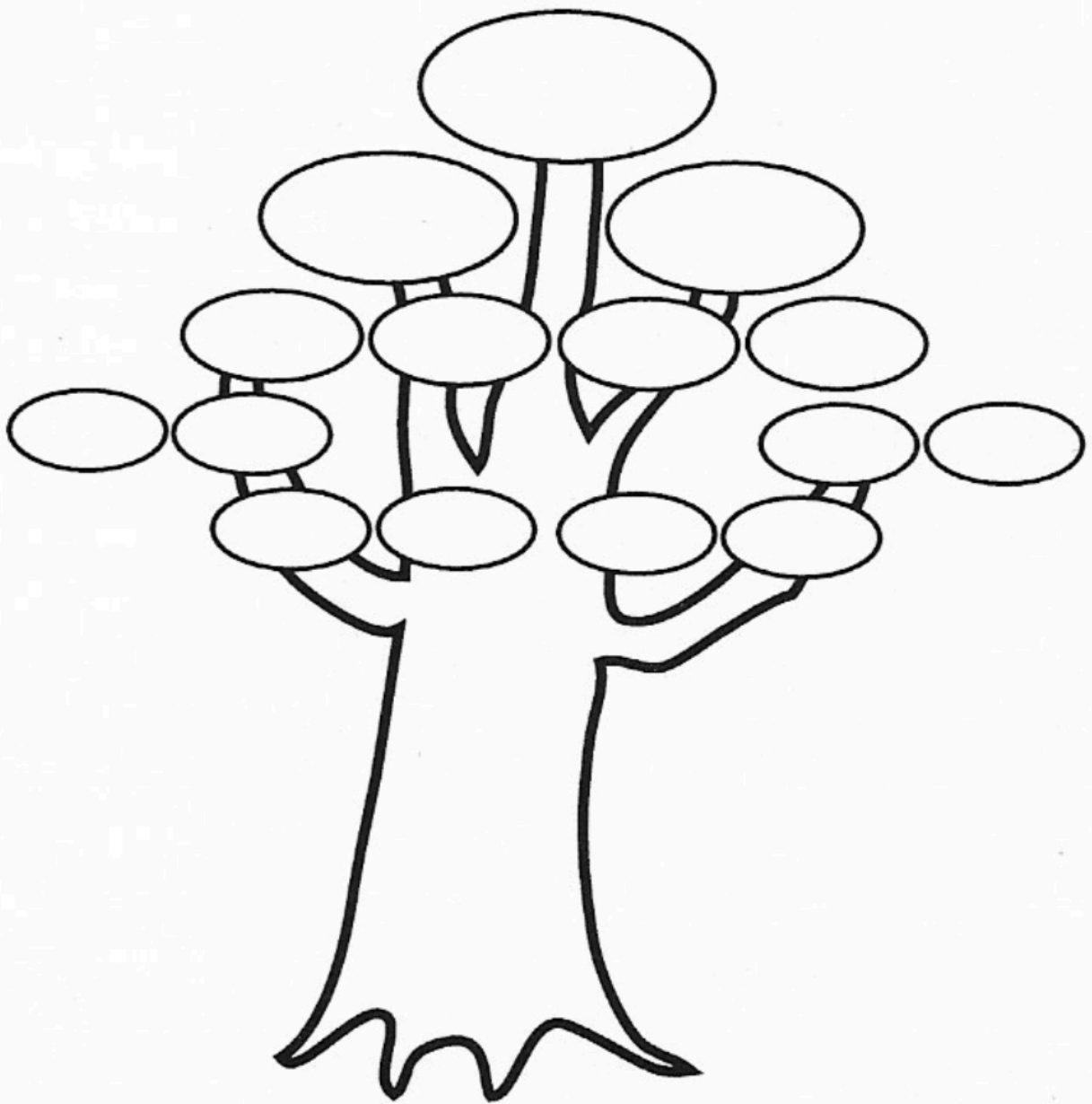
Ask each child to fill in the names on their family tree, going back as far as they can.

SONG

"Father Abraham" is on page 31 of Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask if one of the students would lead in prayer, thanking God for giving Jacob sons, and for making a way for Jesus to be born to his descendants. Thank God for making a way for us to become His children.



Change of Heart

MEMORY VERSE

"Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord never counts against him. He doesn't want to cheat anyone." - Psalm 32:2 (NirV)

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the students will be able to:

1. Explain why Jacob sent such a large gift to his brother Esau.
2. Tell who it was that Jacob wrestled.
3. Define the meaning of Jacob and Israel.
4. State that when your heart is changed, so are your actions.

TOPICS & THEMES

Change

Forgiveness

God's Promises

Gratitude

Names

Perseverance

Prayer

Repentance

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA students' and teacher's books, attendance and memory verse chart, stars, cassette, songbook, player and music tape or CD, mat or blanket, poster board, posters, markers, crayons, bell, awards

PREPARATION

Make a wrestling mat by placing a mat or blanket on the floor in the center of your room. Line the chairs around the perimeter of the mat for the spectators (students). You might want to purchase posters of wrestlers, or make your own, to decorate the room. Write "Round 1" "Round 2," and "Round 3" on three separate sheets of poster board.

Wrestling Terms: Choke Hold -attacker grabs the victim by the throat with 1 or 2 hands; Full Body Press - attacker jumps at the victim at an angle, knocking him to the mat and holds him down; Hammer Lock - attacker grabs the arm of the victim and pulls it behind his back, pulling up to apply pressure to the elbow and shoulder; Leg Breaker - attacker grabs the victim's leg and holds it horizontal to the mat, places his own leg over the victim's leg and drops down driving the leg into the mat; Pinned - any move which disables the victim so that his shoulders are pinned to the mat; Scissor Hold - the attacker locks his legs around the body of the victim and applies pressure.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Real or Phoney? - Ask if any of the kids have ever seen a wrestling match on TV. The wrestlers have names like: The Rock, Stone Cold Steve Austin, Undertaker and Bossman. They get into the ring and proceed to punch and toss each other around with moves like the drop kick, the choke hold, body slam and scissor hold. In the end one of the wrestlers is awarded a belt with a huge metal emblem; he is given the title of "champion." Ask: Have you ever wondered how those men could walk away, or even stand, after all that punishment? Is it for real, or is it just a show?

Match of a Lifetime - Jacob was about to come face to face with his brother whom he had cheated. But this wasn't the match of his lifetime. He already had a plan to win his brother's forgiveness. He sent 580 animals to Esau as a gift. He divided his family and herds into groups and sent them ahead to impress Esau with his wealth. But, when he was alone, he met with a powerful opponent. God came to him in the form of a man.

Round 1 - (Have one of the students walk around on the mat holding up the sign showing all the students. Ring the bell to start the round.) Sometime in the night the Man came and began to wrestle with Jacob. He caught Jacob off guard and the struggle was on. One would have a choke hold or a hammer lock, then the other had a scissor hold. Finally Jacob had the Man pinned; it looked like he was winning. Ask: How is it that Jacob, a man, could be winning a wrestling match with God? Since God was in a human form, He wasn't using His awesome power. (Ring bell to end the round.)

Round 2- (Student holds up second sign, as above. Ring bell.) Jacob and the Man had been wrestling all night. The Man told Jacob to let him go, but Jacob had him in a full body press. So, near sunrise the Man used a leg breaker on Jacob that put his hip out of joint. (Ring the bell.) Have someone read Jeremiah 32:17. This match isn't over yet!

Round 3- (Student holds up third sign. Ring the bell.) Now Jacob was injured, all he could do was hold on to the Man. He realized that this was not just a man he was wrestling. No man had such awesome power. He realized that he was in the presence of God. So Jacob begged God to

bless him. Ask: How did changing his name prove to Jacob that God would bless him? Jacob means schemer, or one who takes something by force or trickery. Israel means prince of God.

A Change of Two Hearts - Ask: As Jacob went to meet his brother the next day, what did Jacob do that showed that his heart, as well as his name, was changed? Instead of being scheming, Jacob was humble (bowed himself, Genesis 33:3). Ask: What did Esau do that showed that his heart was changed? He ran and hugged Jacob, weeping.

Round 4 - Jacob came away from his wrestling match as a winner. God blessed him and changed him. Ask: According to Romans 12:1-2, what must you do to have your heart changed? When your heart is changed, so are your actions!

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What did Jacob do to try to win Esau's forgiveness?
2. After Jacob sent his herds and family across the River Jabbok, who met with him?
3. How was it that Jacob seemed to be winning the wrestling match?
4. What did the Man do that showed Jacob that He was really God?
5. Jacob walked with a limp, but in what way was he a winner?
6. What evidence was there that Jacob's heart was changed? That Esau's heart was changed?
7. If your heart is changed, what else will change?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Divide your class into two groups. Have one group compose an advertisement describing the wrestler, "Scheming Jacob," and the other group "Israel, Prince of God." (If time permits, they can actually make a poster.)

Have the students recite John 1:1-18, the longer memory work assignment for this book. Give an award to every student who can recite it.

SONG

"I Will Sing Of The Mercies Of The Lord Forever" is on page 17 of Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead the students to thank God for changing Jacob's heart and to ask Him to change their heart also.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.