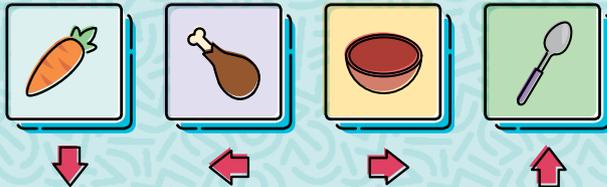


Find Forgiveness



Trouble between Jacob and Esau was stirred up over a bowl of stew when Jacob took his brother's birthright. After

Jacob stole Esau's blessing, it was many years before the brother's relationship was restored through forgiveness. It is never too late to ask someone you've hurt for forgiveness. Use the key to work your way through the maze to forgiveness.



UNIT VERSE

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

PSALM 139:14 (ESV)

Practice It!

Is there anyone in your family you've hurt and need to ask for forgiveness? Write a sentence confessing your wrongdoing and asking for forgiveness. Ask God to help you share what you wrote with the family member.



OPPOSITE MATCH

Forgiveness may seem like the opposite reaction for many people, but God is always ready to forgive. We should be ready to forgive, too. After you find a word on the right that is the opposite a word on the left, color the box according to the directions in parentheses.

- happy (Draw Xs.)
- big (Draw vertical stripes.)
- right (Draw dots.)
- cool (Draw scribbles.)
- fix (Color all of the box.)
- hurt (Leave this box blank.)
- kind (Draw horizontal stripes.)

example



In Jacob and Esau's day, the birthright was a big deal! The firstborn son usually received this honor which meant gaining the father's authority and half of all he owned. As Christians, we inherit "birthright" status through Jesus Christ! Check it out in Romans 8:29.



BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE®

1

CONVERSATION

Jacob and Esau Reconciled

GENESIS 25:27-34; 27; 32; 33

Jacob and Esau were twin brothers. Esau, the older one, was an expert hunter and outdoorsman. Jacob liked to stay at home. Their father, Isaac, loved Esau, but their mother, Rebekah, loved Jacob.

When Isaac grew old and could not see well, he called for his older son, Esau, and said, “Go hunting and then make me a delicious meal that I love. Bring it to me so that I can bless you before I die.”

When Rebekah heard this, she came up with her own plan. She instructed Jacob to bring her two goats so that she could make a meal for her husband. Then she told Jacob to bring the food to Isaac and to pretend to be Esau so that he would receive his father’s special blessing instead of his older brother.

Jacob did exactly as his mother instructed. When Esau learned what happened, he cried out, “Jacob has cheated me!”

Esau decided that he would kill his brother, but Rachel told Jacob to go and stay in another land with his uncle, Laban, until Esau was no longer angry. Jacob stayed with his uncle many years.

One day God told Jacob to go back to the land of his father, Isaac. Jacob was afraid that Esau would still be angry with him for stealing his blessing, so Jacob gathered gifts of camels, goats, and donkeys for Esau. Jacob sent messengers ahead of him to meet Esau.

When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, “Your brother Esau is coming to meet you with 400 men.”

Jacob became even more afraid. He cried out to God, “Please rescue me and my family from the hand of my brother, Esau.” Then he reminded God of His promise saying, “You have said, ‘I will cause you to prosper, and I will make your offspring like the sand in the sea which cannot be counted.’”

Jacob looked up and saw Esau coming with his men. As Jacob approached Esau, he bowed to the ground seven times. Esau ran to meet Jacob. Instead of greeting his brother with anger, he threw his arms around him, and together they wept. Jacob told Esau, “Seeing your face is like seeing God’s face because you have accepted and forgiven me.”

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE: Colossians 3:13

LIFE POINT: Family members can ask for forgiveness when they hurt others.



THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

Parents, today your child heard that family members can ask for forgiveness when they hurt others. After Jacob lived many years away from home, he returned to Canaan. Jacob asked for and received forgiveness from his brother.

LIVE IT OUT

Help your child use a concordance to find verses about *forgiveness*. Write the verses on paper and discuss each one. Help your child remember that people should forgive others because God first forgave each of us.

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God loves families even when family members sin. God is always ready to forgive.

DAILY BIBLE READING

Sunday: Colossians 3:13

Monday: Luke 6:37

Tuesday: 2 Corinthians 2:7-8

Wednesday: Romans 12:20

Thursday: Ephesians 4:32

Friday: Matthew 18:21-22

Saturday: Proverbs 17:9

TAKE IT FURTHER: Check out the *Jacob and Esau Reconciled* section of the Bible Studies for Life: Kids Family App.