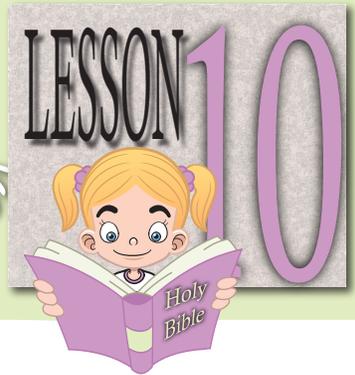


Arranged Marriages to Leah and Rachel

Genesis 29:1—30:24



Old Testament 2
Part 2: Israel

SUNDAY MORNING

Old Testament 2 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

Genesis 29:1-30:24; 35:23-26; 35:16-18

MEMORY WORK:

YOUNGER CHILDREN: "...for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap" (Galatians 6:7b).

OLDER CHILDREN: "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap" (Galatians 6:7).

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF LESSON FOR WORDS):

A [song book](#) and [audio recordings](#) of many of the curriculum songs are available on the curriculum Web site.

- ["The Sons of Jacob"](#)
- ["These are the Sons of Jacob"](#)
- ["Oh, Be Careful, Little Eyes, What You See"](#)

LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP's Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be Scriptural.]
- [Abraham & Israel Bible fact cards](#) (provided under "O.T. 2 Bible Facts" on curriculum Web site)
- Apologetics Press' [Bible Timeline](#)
- "Summary of the Bible" from "[Kids Prep](#)" CD by Jeff Miller
- "Genesis Chapter Summary" from "[Kids Prep](#)" CD by Jeff Miller
- Betty Lukens' felt pieces
- [Jacob: A Beka Flash-A-Card Series](#) (DISCLAIMER: use the cards, *not the lesson book*; remove card 2.3)
- Map of Old Testament world
- Use word cards for the following points to be emphasized during the lesson, or write each on the chalkboard as you teach:
 - **Jacob: son of Isaac and Rebekah**



- **Left Beersheba: to Haran**
- **Ladder dream at Bethel: God's promises repeated**
- **Well at Haran: Meets Rachel**
- **Worked 7 years for Laban**
- **Laban tricked Jacob: Wrong bride**
- **Worked 7 more years to marry Rachel**
- **12 sons, 1 daughter**
- **(If you have explained about the four women having children for Jacob, you might also write on cards/the board the following):**
 - LEAH: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Dinah**
 - RACHEL: Joseph, Benjamin**
 - BILHAH: Dan, Naphtali**
 - ZILPAH: Gad, Asher**

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

When I do something wrong and make a wrong choice, there will always be consequences.

LESSON STARTS HERE

INTRODUCTION: (YOUNGER CHILDREN)

We have been studying about Isaac and Rebekah and their twin boys. Do you remember their names? Which was older? (Esau) Why did Jacob trick his father? Remember how Esau got very upset and Jacob had to move away so he wouldn't get hurt? Jacob went to look for a wife. Today, we will learn about whom Jacob marries. (Bring a picture of a bride and groom and talk a little about marriage. Ask if they have been to a wedding.)

INTRODUCTION: (OLDER CHILDREN)

Do you remember from last week how Jacob, along with his mother, tricked his father? Remember how we talked about the fact that when we do something wrong, we have to suffer consequences? Well, in today's lesson, we will learn how someone from his own mother's family tricked Jacob in a big way! Let's see what the Bible says about this and how we can learn from it!

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. For the younger children, focus on the main points: End story when Jacob married Rachel and say Jacob had 12 sons and 1 daughter. (Don't go into detail about which children belonged to whom.)
2. Remind the class that Jacob and Rebekah tricked Isaac and that Esau was angry with Jacob. Therefore, Rebekah encouraged Jacob to go away to her relatives to get away from Esau and to find a wife.
3. After a long journey of several weeks, or maybe even months, Jacob came near Haran, where his uncle Laban lived. Genesis 29:1 says he "came to the land of the people of the east." These would not have been Canaanites. Jacob stopped at a well and talked to some shepherds, asking them if they knew Laban. They said they did and that the girl approaching with a flock of sheep was Laban's daughter, Rachel.

4. Jacob was so delighted to finally see someone from his own family! He rolled away the large stone covering the well so that Rachel could water her sheep, and then he told her who he was. After running to tell her father about Jacob, Laban quickly returned to Jacob and brought him home to stay with his family.
5. Jacob worked for Laban for a month without pay. Laban then offered Jacob wages for his work if he would stay there and live. Jacob said that he would work for Laban for seven years without pay, if Laban would let Rachel marry him. Laban agreed.
6. After the seven years had passed, Laban made a great feast as part of the wedding celebration for Jacob and his daughter. In the evening, after the feast, Laban brought his daughter to Jacob; she had her face covered with a veil. It was not until the next morning that Jacob learned that Laban had tricked him. His new bride was not Rachel, but her older sister, Leah.



NOTE: Veils were thicker than now, and probably very heavy and decorated with coins as part of the dowry. This fact, as well as the poor lighting in that time period, could have made it easy for Jacob to not notice that he had married Leah, rather than Rachel.

7. Jacob was very angry with Laban! Laban said that it was not their custom to let the younger daughter marry before the older. Laban said that in another week, Jacob could marry Rachel also, but he also wanted Jacob to work for him another seven years.



NOTE: If the students ask if it was “okay” for Jacob to have two wives, emphasize that it was not. It was **not** God’s will for anyone to have more than one wife or husband. This was not God’s plan from the beginning (Genesis 1:27; 2:24; 1 Corinthians 7:2).

8. Because Jacob loved Rachel so much, he agreed and worked for seven more years after their wedding. Jacob eventually worked 20 years total for Laban because Laban was not honest with him. (Read Genesis 29:20, 30 together.) Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah, and this caused problems for them and their descendants for many years to come.
9. God blessed Leah with children because she was not loved as much as Rachel (Genesis 29:31). Since great value was placed on a woman who could bear children, especially sons, Leah no doubt received great admiration and respect from others, even if her husband loved Rachel more. Rachel’s envy (Genesis 30:1) indicates, in the Hebrew, a strong feeling of internal rage (see Genesis 37:11).
10. When Jacob and Leah married, Laban gave Leah a servant named Zilpah. When Jacob and Rachel married, Laban gave Rachel a servant named Bilhah. Because Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah, the two wives became very jealous of each other. They gave their servant girls to Jacob at different times for him to treat as if they were also his wives. So Bilhah and Zilpah also had children for Jacob. This was **not** right, and Jacob had many problems with his two wives and most of his children for the rest of his life. (12 sons and 1 daughter born within 13 or 14 years!)
11. Jacob tricked his brother and his father, but later his Uncle Laban tricked him. Jacob the deceiver was deceived by Laban! Because of Laban’s lies, Jacob ended up with two wives who were jealous of one another and made his life hard. If you tell a friend a lie, later he may either lie to you or trick you in some way. If you are dishonest with your parents or teachers or friends, you will eventually suffer the consequences (i.e., you’ll be paid back, or they won’t believe you when you are telling the truth).

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—BEFORE CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- Click here for the complete [Activity Book](#) and [Answer Key](#).

Ages 2-5:

- “[Leah and Rachel Coloring Sheet](#)” (provided in activity sheets)
- Help children plant a seed or small bedding plant in a small pot or Styrofoam cup to take home. Write the memory verse on each pot/cup.

1st-2nd Graders:

- “[Jacob, Rachel, and Leah True or False Questions](#)”: On strips of paper, write statements about the lesson which are true, and other statements which are false. Put magnetic tape on the back of each strip. Put the strips in a basket or can. Write “True” and “False” on a magnetic board. Ask each student to take a statement from the basket or can, read it, and then decide under which heading it should go on the board. (True or false questions provided in the activity sheets)
- 1st graders: Help the children plant a seed or small bedding plant in a small pot or Styrofoam cup to take home. Write the memory verse on each pot/cup.
- 1st and 2nd graders: Write key words and names from this lesson and previous lessons on half-sheets of cardstock or large index cards. Help the children sound out the words; talk with them about how the words are spelled and how they should sound, etc. Make copies of pages of the Bible which include these sight words. Laminate the pages. Ask the children to circle, with dry erase markers, the sight words they see on the Bible pages. ([Questions](#) from the previous lesson provided in activity sheets)
- “[Leah and Rachel](#)” word search (provided in activity sheets)
- “[Jacob, Rachel, and Leah Matching Game](#)” (provided in activity sheets)

3rd-4th Graders:

- Advanced Bible Reader: Have the kids read Genesis chapters 29-30 (and chapters 26-28 if they did not read those chapters this quarter). [This could be assigned Sunday, to be completed by Wednesday.] Print out copies of the Genesis 26-30 quiz from AP’s [Advanced Bible Reader](#) (ABR) site. Have each of the children take the quiz. If you have not already, outside of class, make ABR accounts for each of the children and put their answers into the ABR quiz for each child. Show them their scores in the next Bible class, and explain what ABR is.
- “[Jacob, Rachel, and Leah True or False Questions](#)”: On strips of paper, write statements about the lesson which are true, and other statements which are false. Put magnetic tape on the back of each strip. Put the strips in a basket or can. Write “True” and “False” on a magnetic board. Ask each student to take a statement from the basket or can, read it, and then decide under which heading it should go on the board. (True or false questions provided in the activity sheets)
- “[Leah and Rachel](#)” word search (provided in activity sheets)
- “[Jacob, Rachel, and Leah Matching Game](#)” (provided in activity sheets)

SONGS:

“THE SONS OF JACOB”

Author: Jeff Miller

(Tune: See “[Kids Prep](#)” CD)

Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah,
Issachar, Zebulun, Naphtali;
Dan, Gad, Asher; Joseph, and Benjamin.
These are the sons of Jacob.

“THESE ARE THE SONS OF JACOB” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Traditional

(Tune: “1 Little, 2 Little, 3 Little Indians”)

Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah,
Dan and Naphtali, Gad, and Asher,
Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin,
These are the sons of Jacob.

“OH, BE CAREFUL LITTLE EYES WHAT YOU SEE” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*

(Tune: “If You’re Happy and You Know It”)

Oh, be careful little eyes what you see. (REPEAT)

For the Father up above,
Is looking down in love.

So, be careful little eyes what you see.

Oh, be careful little feet where you go. (REPEAT)

For the Father up above,
Is looking down in love.

So, be careful little feet where you go.

Oh, be careful little ears what you hear. (REPEAT)

For the Father up above,
Is looking down in love.

So, be careful little ears what you hear.

Oh, be careful little mouth what you say. (REPEAT)

For the Father up above,
Is looking down in love.

So, be careful little mouth what you say.

Oh, be careful little hands what you do. (REPEAT)

For the Father up above,
Is looking down in love.

So, be careful little hands what you do.

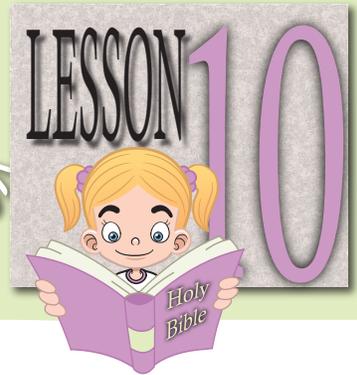
*Author Unknown: Please contact us through the feedback button for this lesson if you are aware of any copyright information for this song.

*** IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS LESSON, PLEASE CLICK THE “SUGGESTION” BUTTON BESIDE THE BUTTON FOR THIS LESSON ON THE CURRICULUM WEB SITE.



Arranged Marriages to Leah and Rachel

Genesis 29:1—30:24



Old Testament 2
Part 2: Israel

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Old Testament 2 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

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SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF SUNDAY'S LESSON FOR WORDS):

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- Betty Lukens' felt pieces
- [Jacob: A Beka Flash-A-Card Series](#) (DISCLAIMER: use the cards, *not the lesson book*; remove card 2.3)
- Pictures of snakes, underwater creatures, lizards, and animals that can camouflage themselves. [e.g., Discovery: "[Camouflaged Warriors of the Jungle](#)" ([December, 2010](#)); "[Cuttlefish: The Camouflage King](#)" ([June, 2008](#)); "[All Kinds of Amazing](#)"]



Skin” (April, 2016)

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

No matter where I am, no matter how I feel, God is with me and will take care of me.

INTRODUCTION:

- [Abraham & Israel](#) Bible fact cards (provided under “O.T. 2 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)
- Review Sunday’s lesson (see [O.T. 2 Review Questions](#) for example questions)

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Review Sunday morning lesson (see [O.T. 2 Review Questions](#) for example questions)
2. Discuss how sometimes we can be influenced to do wrong by those we think are our friends. They appear to be something or someone they are not. (They appear to like you, but they talk about you to others. They say they’re a Christian, but try to get you to do or see something you should not.) Use the *Discovery* article and illustrations from nature about camouflage and how animals trick their prey. We must always be very careful whom we choose as friends, and not to let them influence us to do things God would not like.
3. Also, discuss the importance of Jacob marrying someone who would help him stay close to God. Esau had not chosen wisely for a wife, and Rebekah wanted Jacob to marry someone who knew God. Just like then, it is very important for us to marry someone who is a Christian and knows and loves God. The person we marry can make it easier for us to get to heaven, or harder, depending on their relationship with God.

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—**BEFORE** CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- See Sunday morning’s lesson
- Role play the story, using a veil. The element of “surprise” would be great fun for the children.

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