

THE RESTORED CHURCH OF GOD®

# CHILDREN'S BIBLE LESSONS



Jacob and Esau



LEVEL 2  
LESSON 4

# Jacob and Esau

In Lesson 3, we learned that Abraham sent his servant to find a wife for his son Isaac. During the servant's travels, he met a lady named Rebekah. They traveled home to meet Isaac.

Isaac was out in a field one evening. He looked up and saw camels coming. He knew it was his father's servant. He also saw that a beautiful woman was with the servant.

At the same time, Rebekah saw a man in the distance. She asked the servant who it was and he told her that it was his master, Isaac.

The servant told Isaac all that had happened. Isaac knew that this was his future wife. They got married and loved each other for the rest of their lives.

Abraham lived a full life. He was 175 years old when he died.

## Isaac's Family

Isaac and Rebekah did not have children for 20 years. Isaac turned to God and asked for a child. God

answered his prayer and Rebekah was soon pregnant.

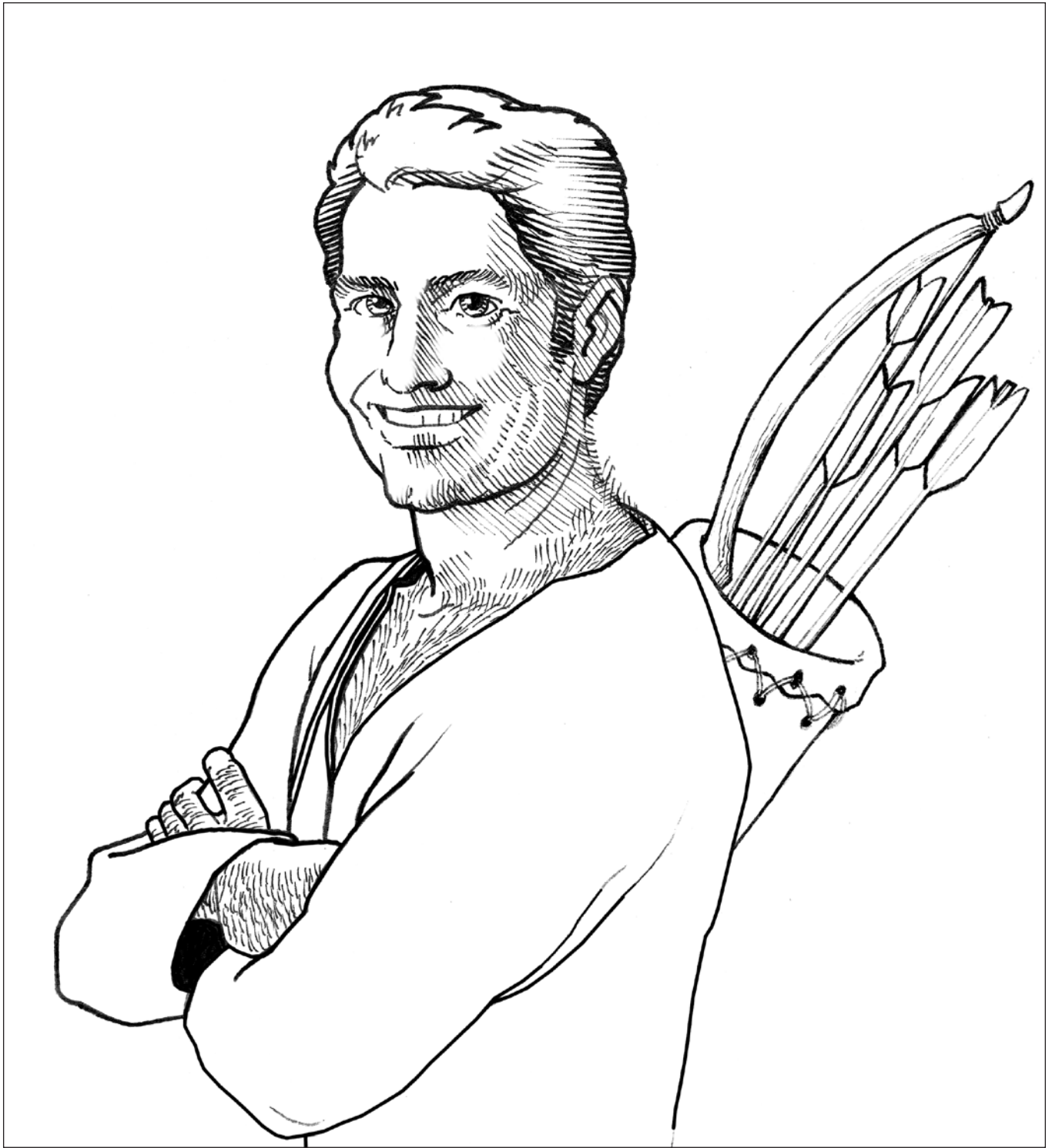
Rebekah noticed that there was a lot of movement in her belly. She asked God why. God explained that within Rebekah's belly was not one child but two! Isaac and Rebekah were going to have twins! God said that two peoples (nations) would come from her children. He told her that the one born first would serve the one born second.

Rebekah gave birth to a reddish, hairy son. They named him Esau. After that, Jacob was born. Isaac and Rebekah were so happy with their new family!

Esau became a hunter. He walked through the land and killed animals to help feed the family. Jacob, the younger brother, became a shepherd. He liked to take care of animals and grow plants for food. He stayed near his home and looked after his animals and crops.

However, Esau and Jacob's parents made a mistake. They each had a favorite child. Isaac liked Esau

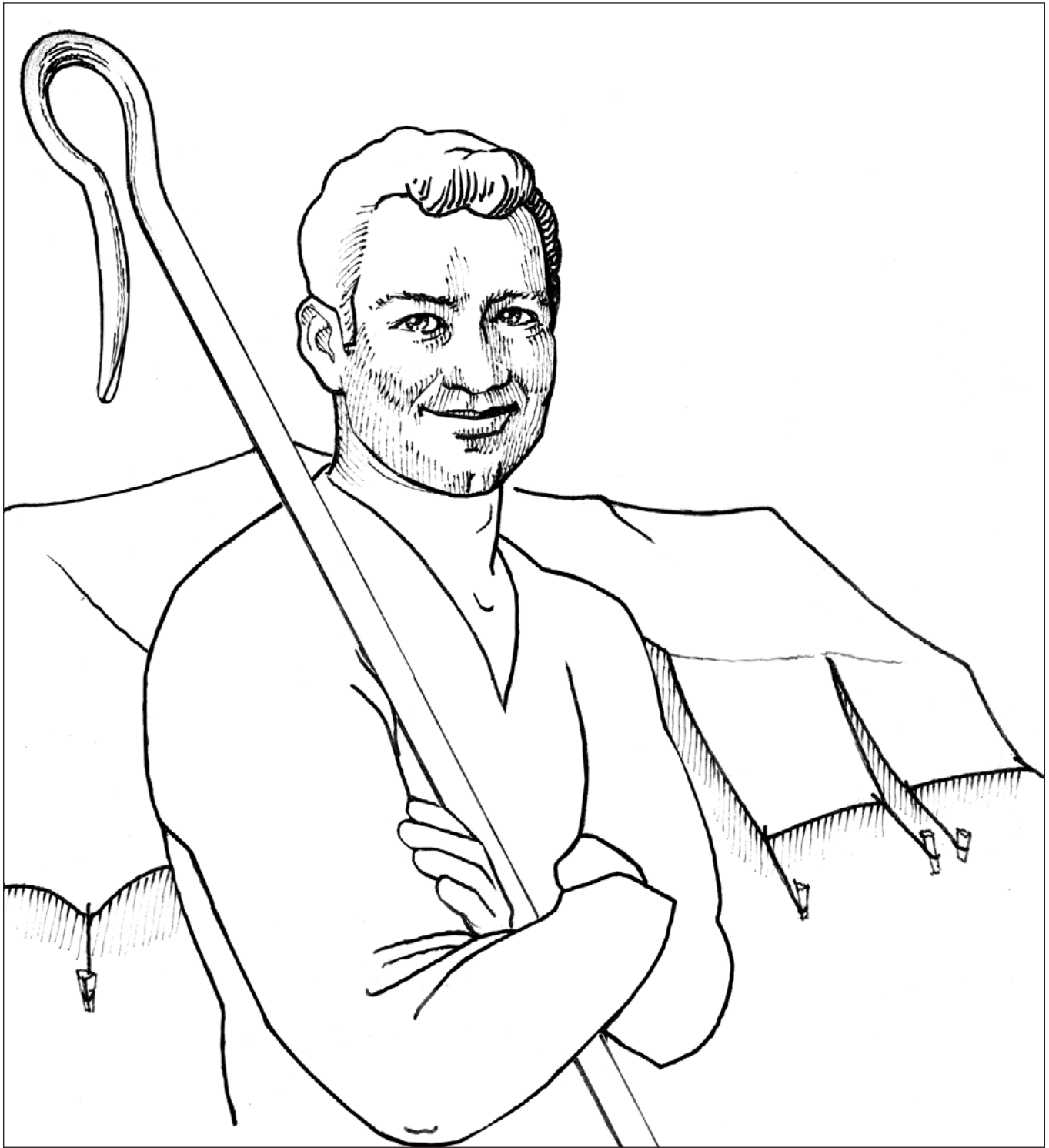




more because of the delicious food he made from the animals he hunted and brought home to be eaten. Rebekah was closer to Jacob. Parents should not play favorites. This

causes children to compete with each other.

Esau was the firstborn and he had the “birthright.” This meant that he would receive more than his siblings



when his parents died. He would receive more animals, land and money than Jacob. This also meant that he would receive the promises made to Isaac's father, Abraham.

Remember God's promise to Abraham. God promised that his family would become great. His children would have lots of children. This would happen for many years.



At some point, his family would be as many as the stars in the sky!

One day, after hunting, Esau came home and was very hungry.

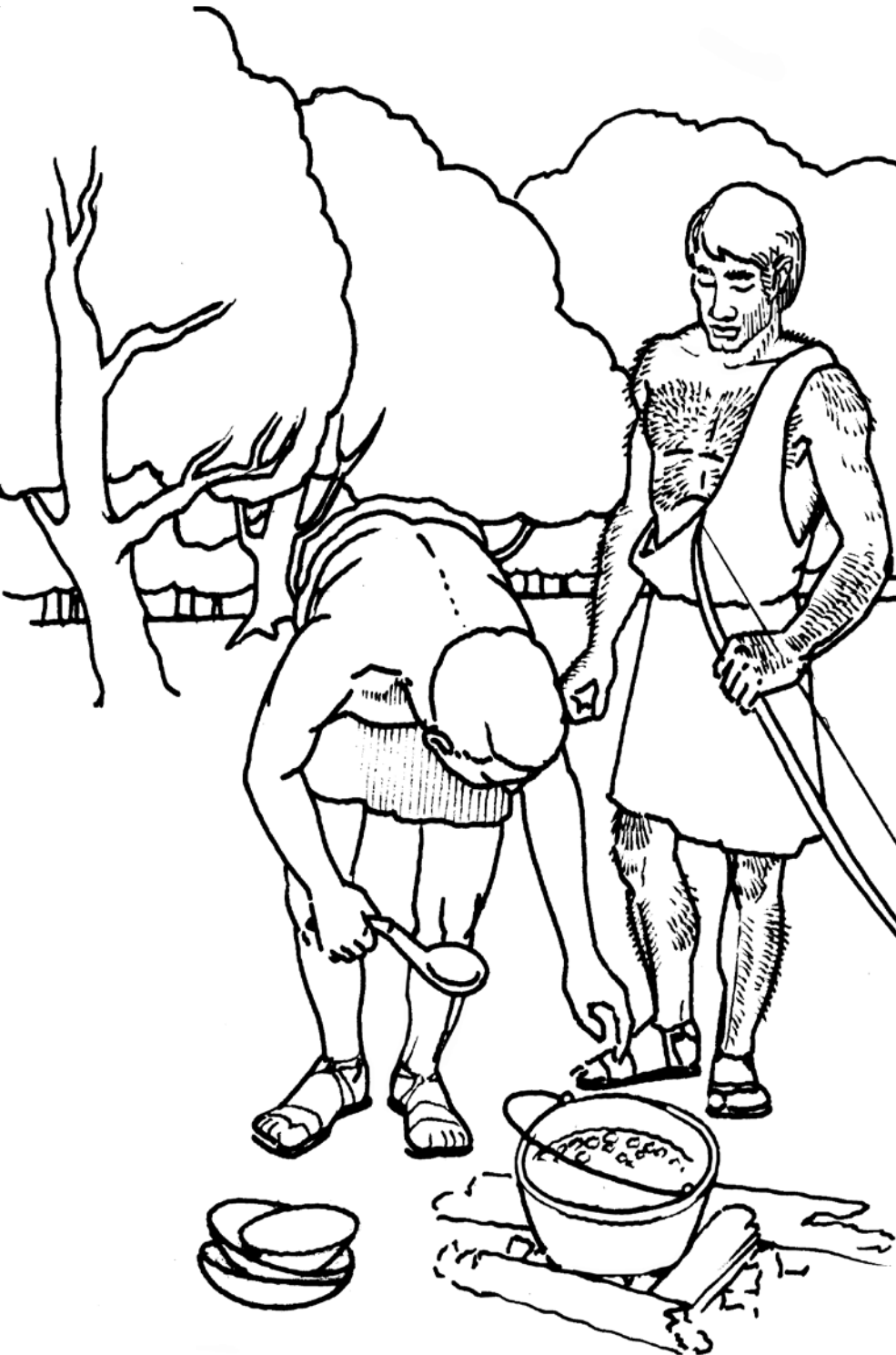
At the same time, Jacob was making a stew. Esau saw the stew and asked Jacob for some. Jacob knew that Esau was very hungry, so he said, "Sell me your birthright and I will give you the stew."

Esau was so hungry, he felt that he was going to die. He agreed to sell his birthright.

### Isaac Gives a Blessing

Isaac grew very old and became almost blind. He knew that he would soon die and that he should bless his older son, Esau. This was the birthright blessing. Isaac called to Esau and said, "I will bless you, but first go hunt a deer and I will have a meal." Esau left to hunt the deer.

Rebekah heard what was about to happen. She did not want this to happen. Because she loved Jacob more, she wanted Jacob to receive the blessing. She called Jacob to her and told



him to get two of his goats from his flock. Rebekah prepared a meal for Isaac. Rebekah told Jacob to bring the meal to his father so that he would receive the blessing instead of Esau.

But Jacob said, “I am smooth-skinned and Esau is very hairy. If my father feels me, he will know that it is not his son Esau.” Rebekah came up with a plan.

After the meal was prepared, Rebekah put Esau’s clothes on Jacob. She also put the skins of goats on Jacob’s hands and neck. If Isaac would feel his son, he would now feel hairy.

Rebekah should not have done what she did. She knew that God promised that the older son (Esau) would serve the younger (Jacob). She should have trusted God. But, she took matters into her own hands.

Jacob brought the meal to his father. Because Isaac was nearly blind, he said, “Who are you, my son?”



Jacob lied and said that he was Esau, Isaac’s firstborn son. He also said that the meal was prepared as requested. Isaac was surprised that his son had hunted and prepared the

meal so quickly. Jacob responded and lied again, saying that God had provided the deer for him. Isaac was not sure that he was Esau, so he told his son to come to him so he could feel him. Isaac felt the skins and it felt like his son Esau.

Isaac ate the meal that Jacob had brought. Then Isaac gave the birth-right blessing to Jacob.

Isaac blessed Jacob, saying that “God will give your family plenty of farmlands and fresh water. He will make you rich. The nations shall bow down and serve your people.”

### **Esau Returns**

Jacob left his father. Soon after, Esau came home from his hunt. He prepared the meal and brought it to his father. Isaac asked, “Who are you?” Esau said that he was his firstborn son, Esau. Isaac was shocked. Who had just come to him?

They realized what had happened and Esau became very angry. He asked for a blessing from Isaac. But it was too late; Jacob had taken the birthright blessing. Esau asked, “Is there any blessing left for me?” Isaac felt sorry for his favorite son.

Isaac said that Esau’s people would not have rich soil or plenty of water. They would make war with people and they would serve Jacob’s people.

Esau did not like his blessing. He hated his brother for what he had done. He wanted to kill Jacob after their father died.

Rebekah heard of Esau’s anger and told Jacob. She instructed Jacob to flee from Esau. She told him to go to Laban, his uncle. She said that when Esau was no longer angry, he could return home.

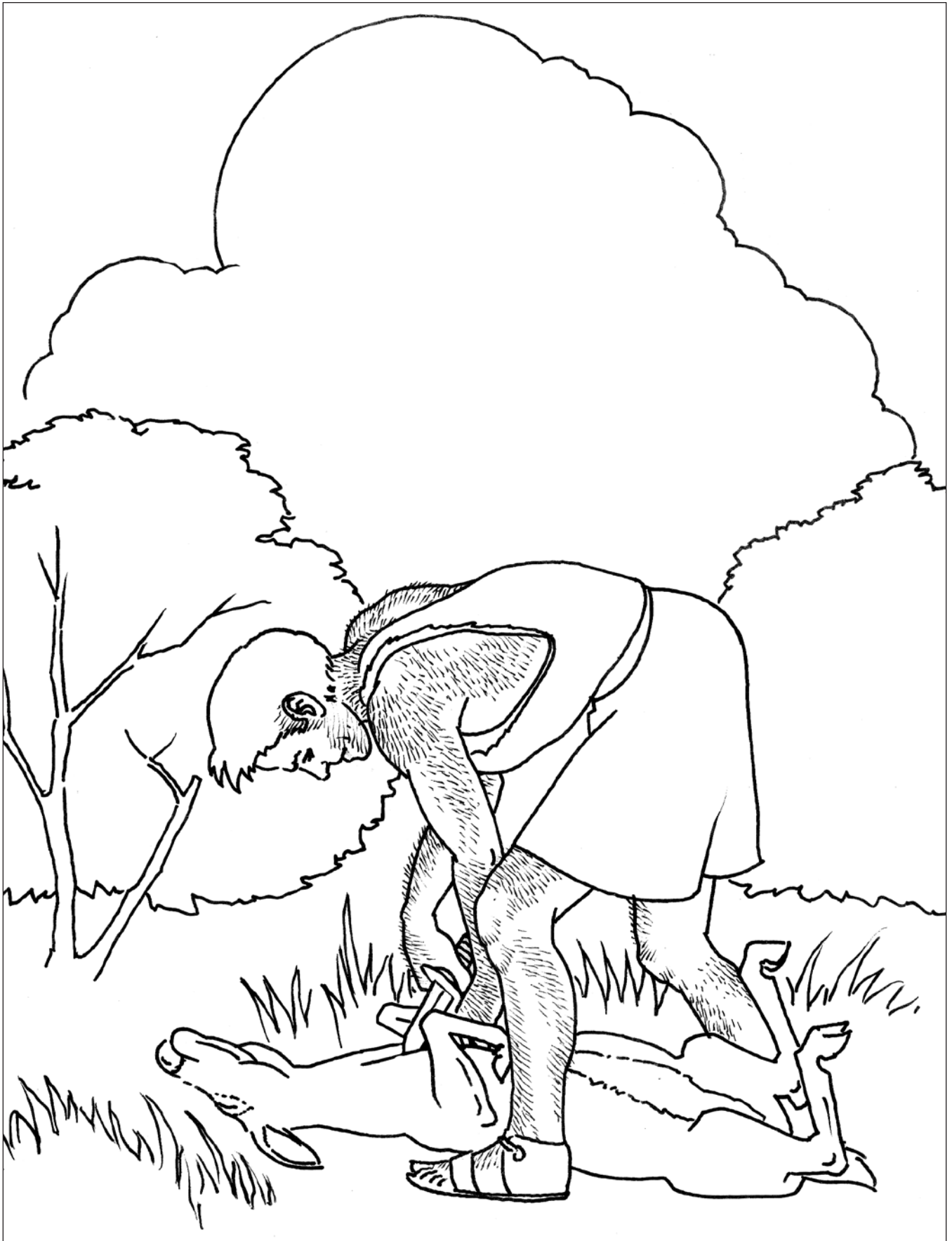
### **Jacob Has a Dream**

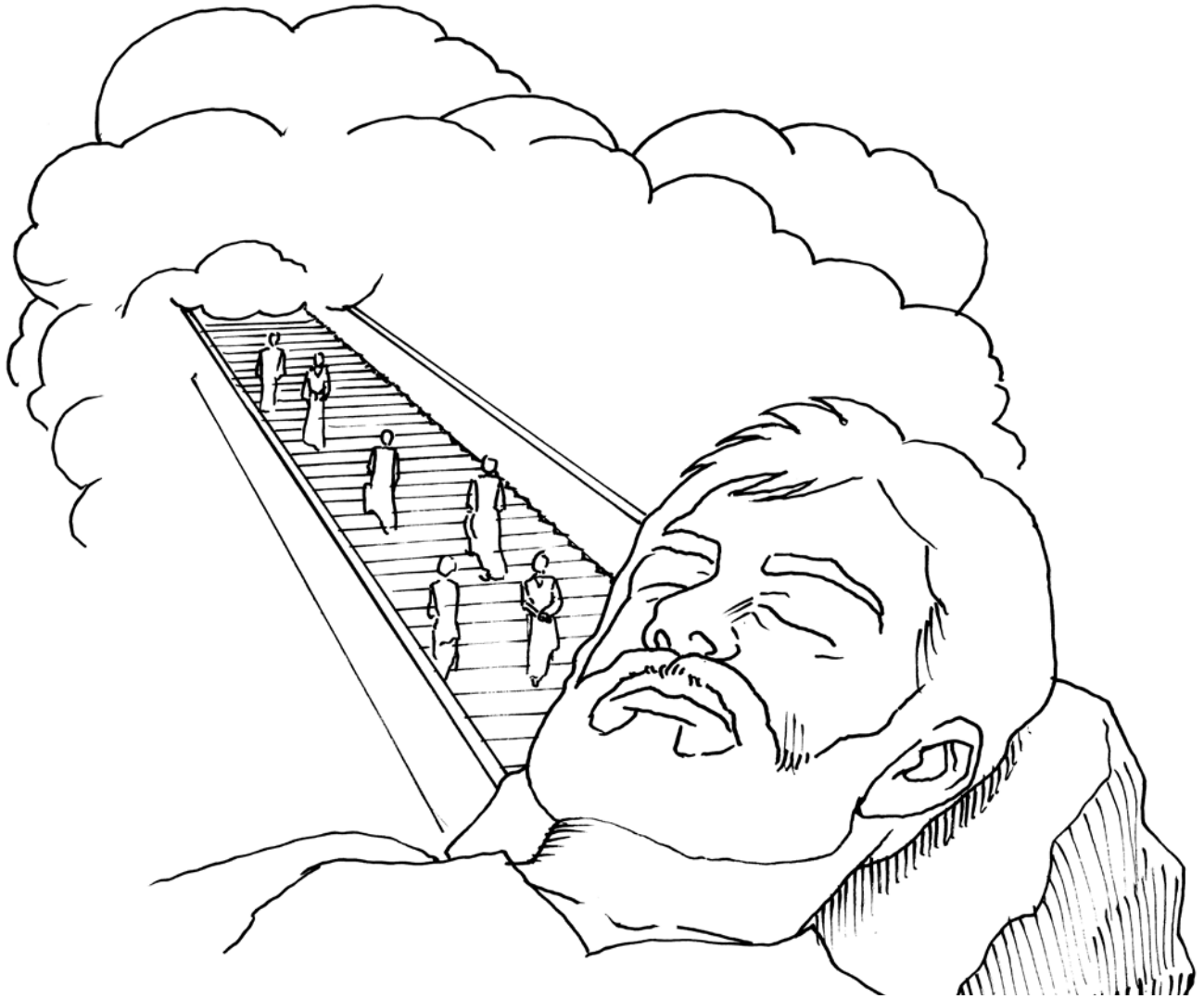
Jacob left his parents and brother. During his journey, Jacob found a place to stay the night. Not having a pillow, he rested his head on a rock. He fell asleep and had a strange dream.

Jacob dreamed that he saw a great ladder or staircase. It started at the ground and went up into heaven. He saw angels of God going up the stairway and others going down.

Then, standing above it, God talked to Jacob and said, “I am the Lord God of Abraham your grandfather, and the God of your father,







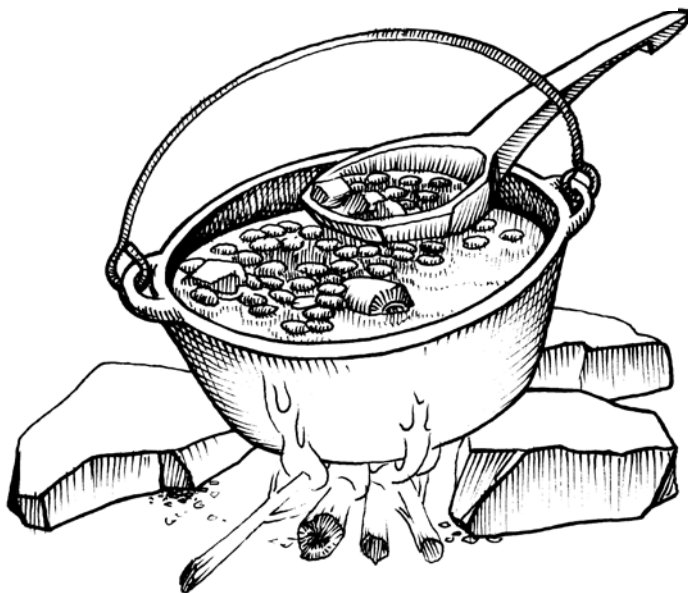
Isaac. I will give you the land where you now sleep. Your people will become a great nation. The number of people will be like counting the dust of the earth. You shall spread in all directions. Through your people, all of the nations of the world will be blessed.” God also promised that He would be with Jacob.

Jacob awoke from his dream and was afraid! Jacob thought that the place where he slept was the gate of heaven. He marked the place with the

stone he used as a pillow. He also promised that God would be his God and that he would tithe to him. To tithe means to give God one-tenth of everything we earn. Jacob knew that all that he would receive would be a gift from God and that God commands us to give one-tenth to Him. We still tithe to God today. Ask your parents to explain what a tithe is.

In the next lesson, we will continue with Jacob’s life. There are many more exciting events to study.

## How to make lentil soup like Jacob:



### Red Lentil Soup

You should not make this soup on your own. Ask your mom if she will help you make this.

This is a very old Middle Eastern recipe.

This soup is very hearty and gives energy on a cold day.

*Remember*, no food can replace the importance of God's truth and blessings.

Esau did not value the importance of what God said.

#### **Ingredients:**

- 1 lb bag of red lentils (washed and rinsed)
- 2 1/2 quarts of water or broth
- 3 tablespoons of olive oil
- 6 garlic cloves (chopped or crushed)
- 1 very large onion (chopped)
- 1 1/2 teaspoons cumin
- 1 tablespoon coriander

#### **Note:**

The lentils will turn yellow when they cook, but that is alright—they are supposed to do this.

**Step 1:** Put the lentils in a 5-quart pot. Cover with water or broth. Bring to a boil, then turn down and simmer for one hour until thick.

**Step 2:** In a skillet, sauté the remaining ingredients until slightly browned.

**Step 3:** Add the contents of the skillet to the pot of lentils.

**Step 4:** Add sea salt and pepper until it tastes right.

#### **Serving Suggestions:**

When you serve this soup, lay lemon wedges on a saucer next to the bowl for people to squeeze a few drops of lemon juice on each spoonful.

## BIBLE MEMORY: Genesis 25:23

### Jacob and Esau

Fill in the blank to each sentence. Then, put the answer in the spaces to the right. After writing the answers on the right, read the letters in the boxes from top to bottom and fill in the blank at the bottom of the page. They will spell what Rebekah should have done. If you cannot spell a word, use the word bank.

1. Esau sold his birthright for a bowl of \_\_\_\_\_. \_  \_ \_
2. A \_\_\_\_\_ is given to the first child of a family. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  \_ \_ \_ \_
3. Esau was a \_\_\_\_\_. \_  \_ \_ \_ \_
4. Rebekah put goat \_\_\_\_\_ on Jacob's neck and arms.  \_ \_ \_ \_
5. Jacob promised to give a \_\_\_\_\_ of what he earned.  \_ \_ \_ \_
6. Isaac gave the birthright \_\_\_\_\_ to Jacob. \_ \_  \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
7. Isaac wanted Esau to hunt a \_\_\_\_\_ and prepare a meal.  \_ \_ \_
8. \_\_\_\_\_ talked to Jacob in his dream.  \_ \_
9. \_\_\_\_\_ was the second born son. \_ \_ \_  \_
10. Jacob had a \_\_\_\_\_.  \_ \_ \_ \_

Rebekah should have \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .

#### Word Bank

deer    hunter    God    dream    Jacob    skins    stew    birthright    tithe    blessing