Esau Sells His Birthright

In our last Lesson, we learned about Abraham and his son Isaac. Abraham’s willingness to sacrifice his only son proved to God that he would always follow God. God blessed Abraham and all his descendants because of his obedience.

Isaac grew up and married a woman named Rebekah. Rebekah was a good wife. She loved Isaac. She had two sons named Jacob and Esau. They were twins, but Esau was the firstborn. He was covered with hair all over his body. Esau grew up to be a great hunter. He traveled all over the land looking for animals to hunt. Jacob grew up to be a shepherd. Jacob was not hairy like his brother. He was smooth-skinned. He stayed close to home and herded sheep and goats. Rebekah and Isaac loved both their sons. But like some parents, they did not love their children equally. Rebekah’s favorite son was Jacob. Isaac’s favorite son was Esau. It was the custom that the firstborn son would inherit a large portion of his father’s possessions and receive a blessing. This was called the
birthright. Esau knew he was his father’s favorite son. He did not take the birthright seriously.

One day, Esau came back from hunting and was so hungry that he thought he was going to die. He saw Jacob cooking a delicious porridge. He asked him for the food. Jacob told Esau that he would only give him the food if he sold his birthright to him. Esau was so hungry that he did not care about his birthright. He agreed. Jacob gave Esau the porridge. Esau denied his place as the firstborn and gave up the birthright.

Rebekah loved Jacob more than she loved Esau. She planned that not only would Jacob have the birthright, but also his father’s blessing. Isaac was very old. He could hardly see. He instructed Esau to hunt for a deer and cook his favorite meal for him. He was going to give Esau the birthright blessing. Rebekah heard this and plotted against Esau. She told Jacob to kill two baby goats so that she could prepare similar meat for his father. She put Esau’s clothes on Jacob and goat’s skins on his arms so Isaac would think Jacob was Esau. Jacob lied to his father. Isaac thought that Jacob was Esau and blessed him instead. When Esau returned and found out that Jacob had stolen the blessing, he was angry. He wanted to kill Jacob. Rebekah heard Esau’s threats. She sent Jacob away to his Uncle Laban’s house.

Although Jacob tricked Esau and lied to his father, God’s plan was still in effect. Jacob received the birthright and the blessing from God.
Esau was a hunter.
Jacob was a shepherd.
Esau went hunting, but did not find anything. He was very, very hungry.
Esau sold Jacob his birthright for a bowl of food.
Dot to Dot Activity
Isaac is tricked into blessing the wrong son.
Jacob kneels for the blessing.
Rebekah learns that Esau plans to kill Jacob. She sends him away.
**BIBLE MEMORY:** Genesis 25:33

---

**WORD FIND**

Cross out all of the following letters in the boxes:

A C D F G J
K L M P T

When you are finished, you will have a few letters not crossed off. The letters that remain spell Isaac’s favorite meal.