

Name: _____

FUNDOCY Homework: Promise Continues

Lesson Taught on Sunday, November 11

Homework Due: Sunday, November 25

This week, we are focusing on how God continued the promise first made to Abraham. God promised to bless Abraham and make his name great, so that Abraham would be a blessing to the world. Through Abraham's family, God did continue the promise. This week, we look specifically at how the promise was continued in Jacob and Joseph's lives.

This week, we learn that, in spite of sin, human weakness, or terrible circumstances, God can (and does! And will!) continue to be faithful to those who cling to faith. We will look at how this is true in Jacob's life and reflect on what this promise means for us (who have also received the promise of blessing that God first made to Abraham!)

So what now? As we study the story of Jacob, we will ask : "What does this mean when we know we have sinned and don't deserve God's love? What does this mean when we're facing a hopeless situation? Remember: God will never give up on you!

Part I: The Lesson

1. Read Genesis 12:2. What does God promise to Abraham?

This is the same promise that is passed on to Jacob and Joseph! (And us!)

2. Read Genesis 25:24-26. These are the children of Rebekah and Isaac.
- We learned about Isaac last time. What does his name mean? (Refer to Genesis 21:3 if you forget). _____
 - Jacob and Esau are twins. Which was born first? _____
3. Read Genesis 25:29-34.
- Normally, the son who is born first receives the birthright. According to your answer above, who should receive the birthright? _____
 - What happens in verses 29-34 regarding the birth right?

4. Read Genesis 27:1-4. Here Isaac promises to give one of his sons a blessing before he (Isaac) dies. Who does Isaac promise to bless? _____

5. Read Genesis 27:19. Instead of blessing the son Isaac thought he was blessing, a trick is played and Isaac blesses his other son.

- Does Esau or Jacob lie here? _____
- Why do you think he lies?

6. Read Genesis 28:13-14. God appears to Jacob in a dream, and makes a promise to him.

- What does God promise to Jacob?

- Do you think Jacob deserves this promise? _____
- Why do you think God makes this promise to Jacob?

7. As you can imagine, the brother who deserved the blessing got really mad at the other brother when he learned what had happened. The brother who lied is now very afraid of what the mad brother will do to him, and he gets run out of the land.

- Read Genesis 32:9. What does the brother who lied pray for?

8. Read Genesis 32:24-28.

- It's a wrestling match! Who is the match between? _____
- The brother who lied says that he will not let the other man go "unless you _____" (Gen. 32:26)
- The brother is given a new name. What is the new name? _____

9. Write a definition for the following terms:

- Birthright

- Blessing

Part II: Reflection Questions (There are NO wrong answers here!)

1. When you are in trouble, are you more likely to pray: “God get me out of it,” or “God get me through it”? Why?

Which did Jacob pray? (Gen. 32:9)

Which prayer will result in more personal growth? Why?

2. Jacob didn’t deserve God’s blessing (remember all the lying he did!) but he held on anyway and asked for it. What can you learn from him next time you are feeling down or depressed?

3. How would you respond to someone who said “God only blesses people who deserve it”?

4. Suppose one of your friends is depressed. She has been going through hard times, and you worry that she may be contemplating suicide. What would you say to her? What would you do?
