

Roots

WBS Kids' Lesson #18

Genesis 30:25-31:55

Hook: Sometimes people may not treat you fairly. They might change the rules while you're in the middle of playing a game so that they are sure to win. Or, when sharing a slice of cake with you, they may take the bigger slice and give you the smaller one! Maybe you've even treated someone in a similar way.

Book: Well, this sort of behavior seems to happen a lot in the life of Jacob, which we read about in the book of Genesis. In this part of our story we learn that Jacob had worked for his father-in-law, Laban, for many years. Jacob didn't want to work for him any longer taking care of his sheep, but Laban didn't want him to leave. So, he asked Jacob to stay, but then tried to trick him by not paying him fairly! Jacob had some tricks of his own to outsmart Laban. Both men were sneaky and tricky, trying to keep the most and best sheep for themselves, but here's the truth we need to remember: *No one fools God. The Lord saw how Jacob and his father-in-law were treating each other. Their behavior would not have been pleasing to God, but God is full of grace and is faithful to His promises. He doesn't lie or cheat or fool people.* God made a promise to Jacob's grandfather, Abraham, that He would make his family into a great nation. So the Bible says: **"Then the Lord spoke to Jacob. He said, 'Go back to your father's land and to your relatives. I will be with you'."**

Look: We know that Jacob was not perfect—just like we're not perfect! But God had a plan for Jacob's life and told him to return to his homeland. Jacob took his wives, Leah and Rachel, (back then men often had more than one wife!) and all his children and obeyed God. This would have been a dangerous move because it angered Laban, but Jacob obeyed and the Lord kept him safe. God kept His promise to be with him.

Took: Boys and girls, I want you to know that even though you don't behave well 100% of the time—even though you are not perfect—God will keep His promises to you because He is good 100% of the time and He IS perfect! Today when you go home, love God by obeying Him and loving others. And as you play and rest and eat your meals, remember that God is a promise keeper and He is with you, just like He was with Jacob.

Bible Verse: "Then the Lord spoke to Jacob. He said, "Go back to your father's land and to your relatives. I will be with you." Genesis 30:3

Prayer: “Dear Lord, Thank You that You are faithful to Your promises. You have a plan for our lives and You are with us—even when we don’t behave as we should. Please help us, though, to act in a right way toward others. Amen.”

Genesis: Lesson #18



**what we
learned**

We learned about Jacob and Laban and how they tried to trick each other with the sheep. And we also learned that No one fools God. The Lord saw how Jacob and his father-in-law were treating each other. Their behavior would not have been pleasing to God, yet God is full of grace and is faithful to His promises. He doesn't lie or cheat or fool people. God made a promise to Jacob's grandfather, Abraham, that He would make his family into a great nation. So the Bible says: "Then the Lord spoke to Jacob. He said, 'Go back to your father's land and to your relatives. I will be with you'."



**memory
verse**

**"Then the Lord spoke to Jacob. He said, 'Go back to your father's land and to your relatives. I will be with you'."
Genesis 30:3**



**parent/child
activity**

Today we talked about what it sometimes looks like to not be treated fairly. We mentioned that someone might change the rules while we're in the middle of playing a game so that they are sure to win. Or, when sharing a slice of cake, they may take the bigger slice and give you the smaller one! Talk with your child about how to treat others fairly and then practice it. Divide things evenly, take turns, stay true to your word, etc. Then pray the prayer below to thank God that even when we don't act as we should, He is 100% faithful to His promises.



daily prayer

"Dear Lord, Thank You that You are faithful to Your promises. You have a plan for our lives and You are with us—even when we don't behave as we should. Please help us, though, to act in a right way toward others. Amen."

the learning
TLC
continues