

# JACOB AND ESAU

**Bible Text:** Genesis 25:19-34; 27:1-45; 28:10-22; 32:22—33:4

**Lesson Focus:** God can do great things with imperfect people.

**Big Question:** Why would God choose a guy like Jacob who was out to get all he could for himself?

**Key Words:** DECEPTION, RETRIBUTION, ENDURANCE

## BIBLE CONNECTION

- ] Genesis 25–33 is filled with stories of love, greed, deception, and stealing among God’s chosen people.
- ] Isaac and Rebekah were parents of twin boys, Jacob and Esau (Genesis 25:24-28).
- ] Even though he was born second, Jacob was chosen by God to lead God’s people.
- ] Esau was Isaac’s favorite; Jacob was favored by Rebekah.
- ] Esau was angry with Jacob for “stealing” Esau’s inheritance (Genesis 27).
- ] When Isaac blessed Jacob, it could not be undone so that Esau could receive the blessing.
- ] Despite all the sinful behavior, God remained faithful to the covenant God made with Abraham.
- ] In Jacob’s dream, God passed down the covenant with Abraham to Jacob. Jacob called this place where he had the dream Bethel. (Genesis 28:10-22).
- ] Jacob wrestled with God and was given a new name, Israel, which means “one who strives with God” (Genesis 32:22-32).

## CARTOON CONNECTION

- ] What might have been going on inside Jacob’s head after he had the dream about the ladder?
- ] What questions would Jacob have after the ladder dream?
- ] How do you connect Jacob’s struggles in his life with this unusual dream?



## STUDENT BOOK CONNECTION

Here We Stand Student Book page 218: How to Bless Someone

- ] What examples have you seen of receiving blessings?

Here We Stand Student Book page 144: How to Share the Peace in Church

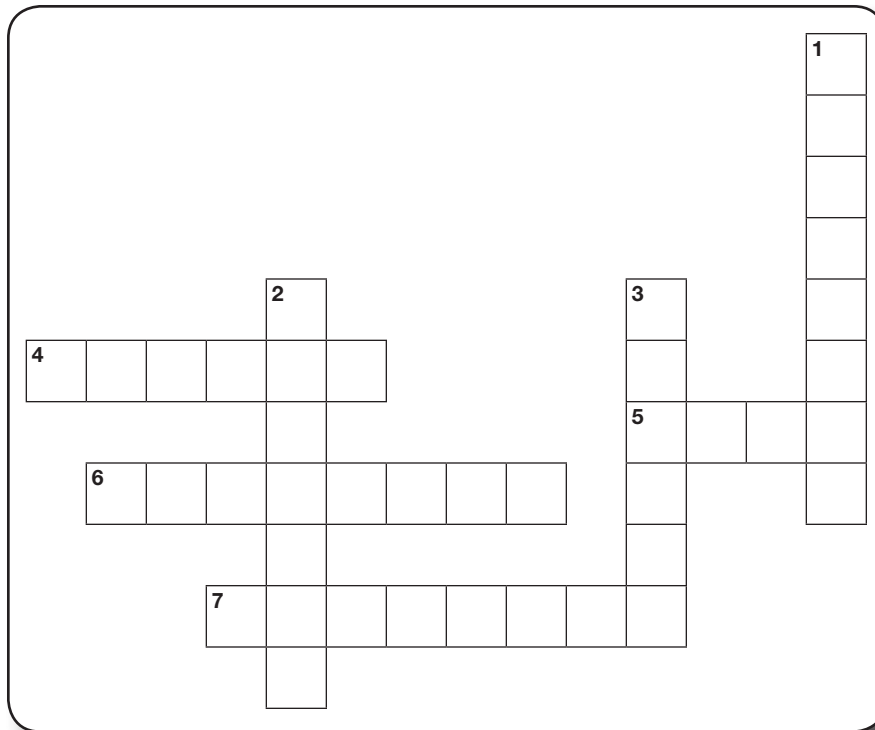
- ] How is the peace shared in your congregation?
- ] How do you feel about sharing the peace?

## LIFE CONNECTION

Chances are you’re imperfect, like Jacob was and like all people are. But God can do great things through you. Pick one great thing to do this week. Collect food for a food pantry. Donate some clothes you don’t wear anymore. Do some gardening for your neighbor. What other ideas can you come up with? God does great things through you!

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## Crossword



### ACROSS

4. Jacob's new name.
5. Jacob and Esau were this kind of brothers.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ God made with Abraham was passed on to Jacob.
7. God remains \_\_\_\_\_ to God's people, no matter what!

### DOWN

1. Jacob received this from Isaac.
2. She helped Jacob trick Isaac.
3. Jacob had a dream here (Genesis 28).

Answers: Across 4. Israel 5. twin 6. covenant 7. faithful Down 1. blessing 2. Rebekah 3. Bethel