

God Sees A Brother Trick His Father

Genesis 25:19-28; 27:1-45

Abraham was a man who obeyed God, & because of this God gave him many helpers & animals. God also gave Abraham a son named Isaac. Isaac grew up to obey God just like his father. Isaac married Rebekah & they were very happy together. They loved God & obeyed him. & God blessed them with more animals & more helpers. For a long time, they had no children. They prayed to God for a child & God gave them TWO! They had twin babies. They were so excited!

The twins were both boys! Sometimes twins look alike & sometimes they look very different. These two boys were very different. The oldest baby was red, & he had lots of hair. Isaac & Rebekah named him Esau. The second baby was not red, & he didn't have much hair. They named him Jacob.

As the boys grew, they did not act like each other either. Esau was strong & he liked to be outside. He loved to hunt with a bow & arrow & to run in the wilderness. Isaac was very proud of his big, strong son, Esau. Jacob liked to stay at home in the tents with his mother. He liked to cook. Rebekah was very proud of her quiet, helpful son, Jacob.

When the boys grew up to be men, something very sad happened in their family. Isaac was getting very old & one day he said to Esau, "I am old, & I want to give you my blessing before I die. My blessing is a special promise that I will choose you as the leader of our family because you are the oldest. Now please go hunting & make for me my favorite soup." Esau obeyed his father.

Jacob & Esau's mother, Rebekah, heard what Isaac told Esau. She did not want Esau to be the leader of the family. She wanted her favorite son, Jacob, to lead the family. She told Jacob that they would get the blessing for him while Esau was gone. Rebekah had a plan to trick Isaac into giving the blessing to Jacob. Since Isaac was old, he could not see very well. Rebekah told Jacob to put on Esau's clothes. She put hairy fur on Jacob's hands & neck so if Isaac touched him, he would feel just like Esau. Then they made Isaac's favorite soup & had Jacob take it to him.

Rebekah & Jacob made a plan to trick Isaac. Jacob was going to lie to Isaac. God had blessed this family & God could see that they were going to do wrong even though God had been so good to them. When Jacob took the food to Isaac he said "It's me, Esau. I've made the soup that you love. Please sit & eat. Then you can give me your blessing like you promised." Isaac asked, "How did you go hunting & fix the soup so quickly?" Jacob replied, "God helped me."

Isaac was very confused. The voice he heard sounded like Jacob. He wanted to smell him & feel his hands to know if it was Jacob or Esau. Isaac said, "Come close to me & let me see if you smell & feel like Esau because you sound like Jacob." So, Jacob went over to Isaac & stood close. The trick worked, & Isaac said "I hear Jacob's voice, but these are Esau's hands. It even smells like Esau. I will eat the soup & then give you my blessing. "May God give you much grain & many children & helpers. May God bless those who are good to you!" Isaac ate the soup & then he prayed, "Dear God, please give my son many good things. Make him a great leader. Bless him & let him be a blessing to our family."

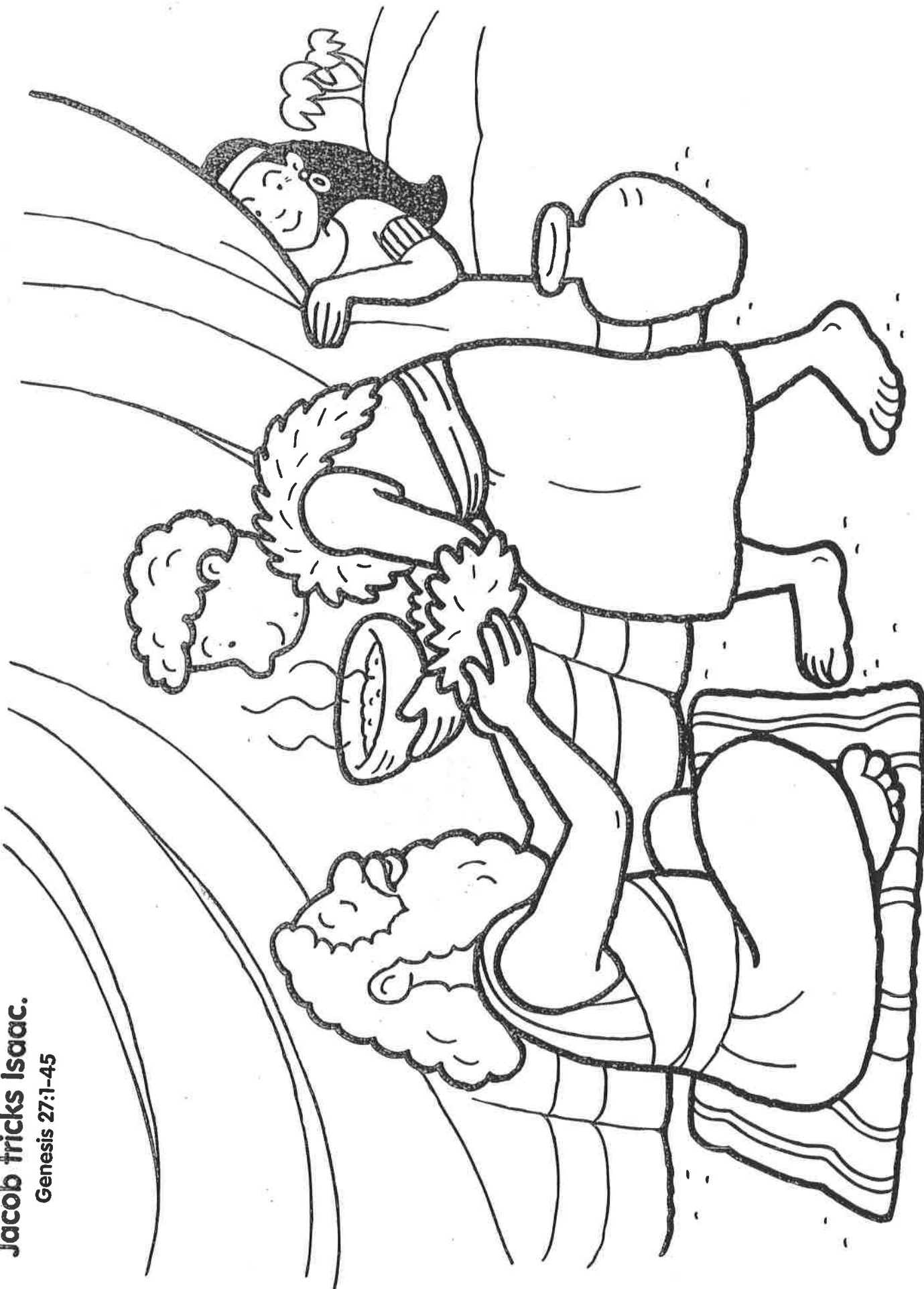
Isaac thought that he was blessing Esau, but he was really giving the blessing to Jacob. Esau should have received the blessing because he was the oldest. When Esau returned from hunting, he prepared his soup & went in to see his father. But Isaac did not recognize him because he thought Esau had already come.

When Esau found out that Jacob had tricked their father, he was very sad, & he ask his father to bless him too. Isaac replied, "I am very sad to say that I cannot give you what I have already given to Jacob." Esau was so angry that he wanted to hurt Jacob! So, Rebekah told Jacob to run away to her family. Jacob stayed away for many years. He did not see his mother or his father or Esau.

August Bible Verse:

Be strong and courageous!
Do not tremble or be dismayed
for the Lord your God is with you
wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

Jacob tricks Isaac.
Genesis 27:1-45



Jacob's Soup

