United Church of God • An International Association

SABBATH SCHOOL

Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

Level 1 • Unit 6 • Week 1

TWO BOYS, A BIRTHRIGHT AND A BLESSING

OBJECTIVE:

The children will learn the value of a birthright, how Esau sold his birthright to Jacob and how Jacob deceived his father in order to take Esau's blessing.

ATTENTION GETTER:

Ask: Who knows what a birthright is?

Say: A birthright is something that parents pass on to their children. It means "a right, privilege,

or possession to which one is entitled by birth" (Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary).

Ask: What was a birthright in Old Testament times?

Say: Most of a father's land and possessions were passed on to his oldest son when he died.

Today we're going to read a story about two boys. The oldest boy, Esau, sold his birthright to his brother Jacob, and then Jacob tricked his father in order to take his brother Esau's blessing.

BIBLE LESSON:

Read: Genesis 25:29-34 and 27:1-41 from the *Read With Me Bible* (Zondervan, 1993), pp. 56-66.

LESSON APPLICATION:

Supplies: Copies of Jacob and Esau activity sheet

Copies of birthright activity sheet

Red lentils

Glue Crayons Activity #1: Hand out the Jacob and Esau activity sheet with a small amount of red lentils to each child. Students can color the picture except for the "inside" of the bowl. Help each child to cover the inside of the bowl with glue. Then have the children glue the lentils to the bowl.

Activity #2: Hand out the birthright activity sheet. Have the children write their last name on the space at the top of the page. Help the children to think of more "birthrights" (or blessings) of their family. (Examples: Going to the feast, having brothers and sisters, good school, etc.)

Music:

Sing the following song, "Honor Your Parents," to the tune of "All Things Bright and Beautiful."

God says to honor parents And listen to what they say. When we obey their wishes, God will bless our way.

(Lyrics by Susan Blumel)

MEMORY VERSE:

Ephesians 4:25 "Therefore, putting away lying, 'Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,' for we are members of one another."

Do: Rehearse the memory verse a few times with the children repeating it. Form a circle. Take a small beanbag or balloon and toss it to one of the children. Have them try to say the verse or as much of the verse as they can and then toss the bag to someone else. Give everyone a turn.

Esau Sells His Birthright







THE POINT:

The children will learn the value of a birthright, how Esau sold his birthright to Jacob and how Jacob deceived his father in order to take Esau's blessing.

Ask Me...

- Who was Jacob?
- Who was Esau?
- What is a birthright?
- What mistakes did the boys make with the birthright and the blessing?
- What are some birthrights we have today?

FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:

Discuss with your child how we show respect or disrespect for our birthrights today.

Brainstorm ideas of how your family can show respect and appreciation for their birthrights and blessings. (Be sure to include items such as our home, our country, attending church, employment, etc.) Make a list of your ideas.

(Teacher's note: please write the memory verse on the back of this page at the bottom.)