



PHUMC Sunday School lessons for Preschool – 5th grade.

November 15, 2020 – The Blessing (Genesis 27:1-45)

Prepare to Wonder

Faith Word: Blessing

Jacob now has his brother's birthright, but to receive the inheritance he must also receive the full blessing from his father, Isaac. To make this happen, Rebecca comes up with a plan to deceive Isaac. The plan involves Jacob dressing up in such a way that he appears to be his brother Esau. Jacob makes himself very hairy and brings his father savory food. Isaac is very old and cannot see so he depends on smell and touch to assure himself the person before him is really Jacob. Though Isaac still questions the identity of "Esau," he does bestow his blessing on Jacob.

When Esau returns and learns of the trickery, he was understandably upset and begged his father to bless him also. Isaac said that the blessing has already been bestowed on his brother and would stay that way. Instead, Isaac offered Esau a much lesser blessing. After Isaac passed away, Esau wanted to take revenge against Jacob, so Rebecca sent Jacob to her family to hide and stay safe.

Everyone in this story must have been feeling completely overwhelmed. It is easy to get overwhelmed when life gets hard. When there is chaos all around us, we sometimes lose our ability to see clearly, and we don't always respond in helpful and faithful ways. In fact, this story shows us what not to do. But this story also gives us the opportunity to act differently. We can feel, notice, and name our emotions in hard times, and then proceed by asking God to be with us. The mess of our lives may not go away. But when we go to God, we can pause even for just a moment and feel the stillness of God's presence and be reminded we do not have to face this life alone. Children have big feelings, too. As adults, we can help them find tools like this to manage and cope when life feels like too much. When children can go to God, Children can deepen their faith and strengthen their abilities to be healthy and whole.

Spiritual Practice for Adults

Think about what blessing you would like to receive from God. Close your eyes and visualize what the blessing might look like. We don't often think of blessing ourselves, but I encourage you to. Make a cross on your forehead with lip balm. Say to yourself, "I am a child of God. I am blessed by God."

WONDER together

What does your body feel like when you are angry? Sad?
How do you feel when someone hurts you?

CONTINUE to Wonder

How do you respond when someone hurts your feelings?
What makes you angry?

Wonder with Me

READ the Bible Story

Genesis 27:1-45 (Read from your Bible or see below for the Celebrate Wonder version)

Roll the Wonder Cube. Take time to answer a few of the questions.

*To make the Wonder Cube that will be used for 13 weeks, print off the Cube template (see below), cut out, and fold on the dotted lines. Tape or glue the flaps together to create a cube.

WATCH the Bible Story

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bXRZuIPwIV8&feature=youtu.be>

SHARE the Faith Word

Faith Word: BLESSING – A blessing is all the things God provides.

WONDER: Are feelings a blessing?

Spiritual Practice

Share the Celebrate Wonder Family Activity Book together (page 24 & 25). Spend some time talking about the material on the pages. Challenge everyone in the family to participate in the Spiritual Practice activity for this week (on pg. 25).

Celebration Chart – (See below) print one for each child. Display them on your refrigerator. Help your child mark a space each time he/she completes an item on the chart. When the vertical, horizontal, or diagonal line is completed, celebrate together!

Go in Peace

Blessing: Bless your child by touching them and saying “You are a blessing from God. Thank you, God, for _____ (child’s name).”

Prayer: Thank you, God, for being with us all the time and hearing our prayers. Amen.

Additional Activity for each age group

Select the material toward the end of the lesson that is age appropriate for your child(ren)



Bible Storybook



I wonder: What would you have done if you were Rebekah?

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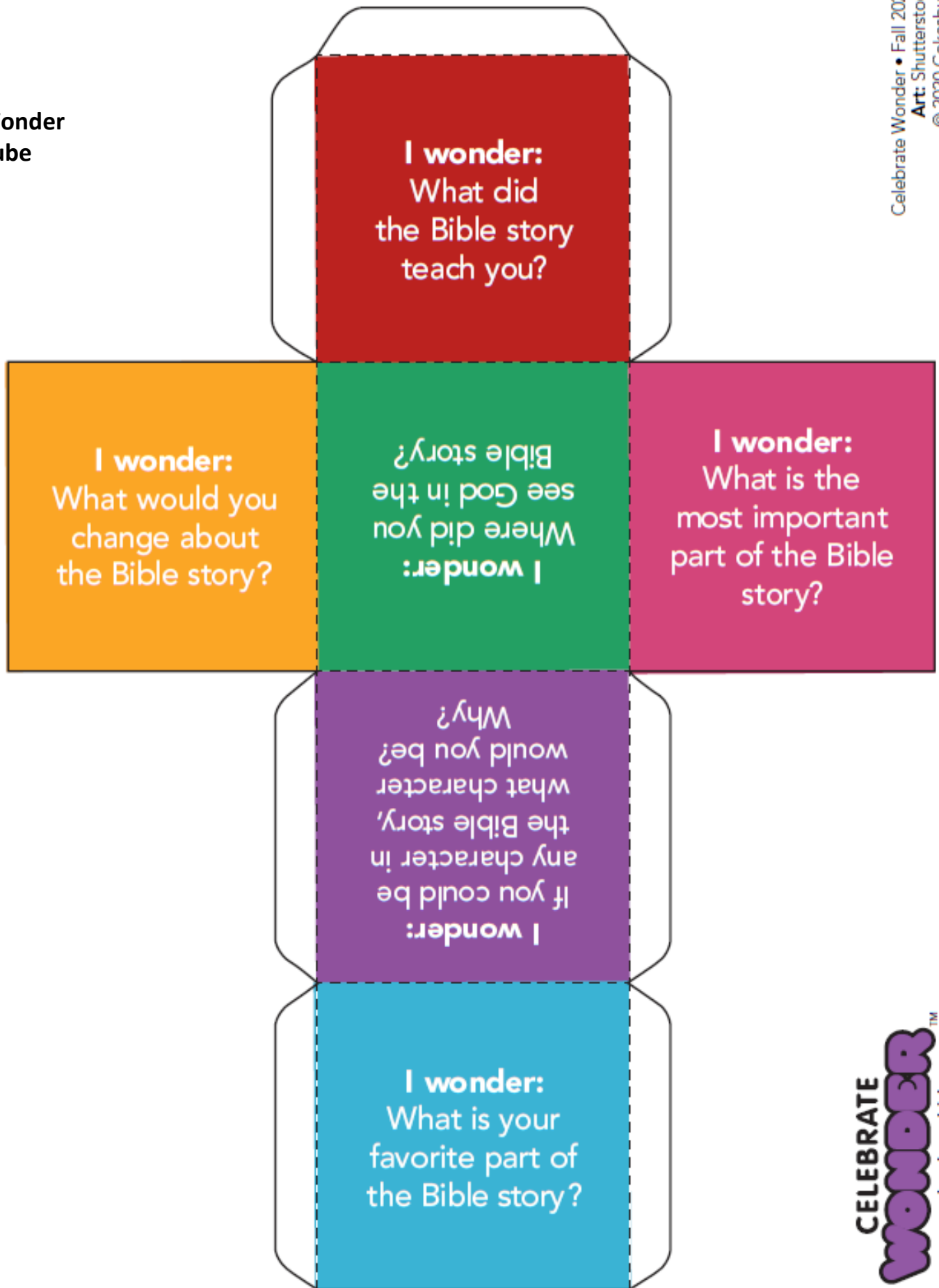
The Blessing

Genesis 27:1-46

Jacob and Esau got older. Isaac and Rebekah got older. Isaac thought, *I am an old man. It is time to give my blessing to Esau.* "Esau, please hunt and make my favorite food. Then I will give you my blessing," Isaac instructed. Esau left in search of food. Rebekah heard Isaac. She wanted Jacob to have the blessing. She helped Jacob dress in a disguise so Isaac would believe that Jacob was Esau. Rebekah made Isaac's favorite stew and gave it to Jacob to take to Isaac. Jacob went into Isaac's tent. "Who are you?" Isaac asked. "It's me, Esau," said Jacob, "here is your food." Isaac ate his food and then prayed a blessing over Jacob. Esau returned to Isaac only to discover that Isaac had given the blessing to Jacob. Esau was very angry.

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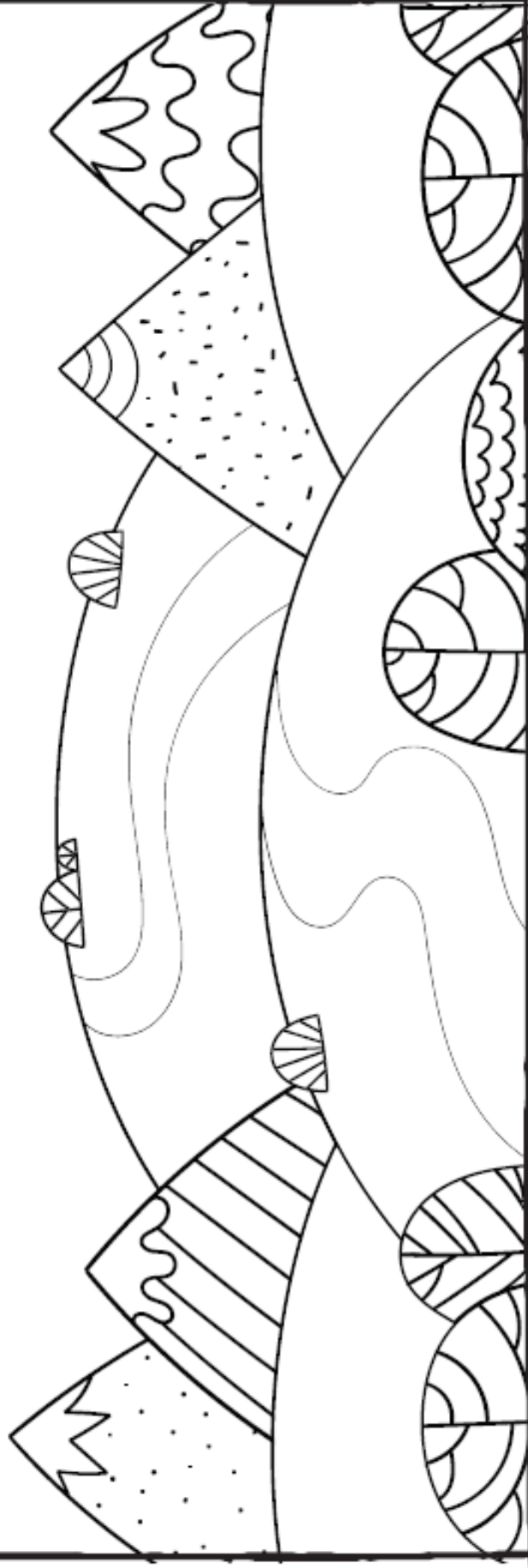
**Wonder
Cube**



Place the chart on your refrigerator, kitchen table, or in an easy-to-access place. Throughout the week, have your child mark a space each time he or she completes an item on the chart. When a vertical, horizontal, or diagonal line is completed, celebrate together!

CELEBRATE				
Saw beauty in nature	Was kind to animals	Cared for living things	Was kind to a friend	Helped someone
Saw something good	Spent time in nature	Cleaned up trash	Took care of plants	Recycled
Laughed	Made someone laugh	Free Celebration!	Encouraged a friend	Showed hospitality
Said a table blessing	Shared with someone	Prayed for blessings	Prayed for good choices	Blessed someone
Prayed for someone	Prayed for peace	Made peace	Was friendly	Prayed for community

BLESSING



Preschool Activity

Angry Feet (Art)

Supplies: Printed Angry Feet page, color crayons, tape

Prepare Ahead: Photocopy the “Angry Feet” page.

- Have your child draw pictures of things that make him/her angry on the feet.
- When they are done, tape the feet onto the child’s shoes. Let him/her stomp around like they are angry.

Say: It is OK to be angry sometimes. It’s not OK to hurt someone when you are angry, though. So, God helps by offering us tools – like prayer, using our stomping feet, counting to ten, ect. All those things help us get over our anger.



Early Elementary Activity

Blessings for All (Exploration)

Supplies: paper, colors, markers, pencils, etc (to draw your favorite food or recipe), and the recipe and items needed to prepare your food.

Wonder: What is your favorite food?

Who would you share your favorite food with?

- Write or draw your favorite food or recipe.
- Then as a family, make one of your recipes.
- Cook and share a meal together.
- As you eat, talk about things that are blessings in your life.
- Write down your blessings as a family and place them somewhere you can see them throughout the week.



Older Elementary Activity

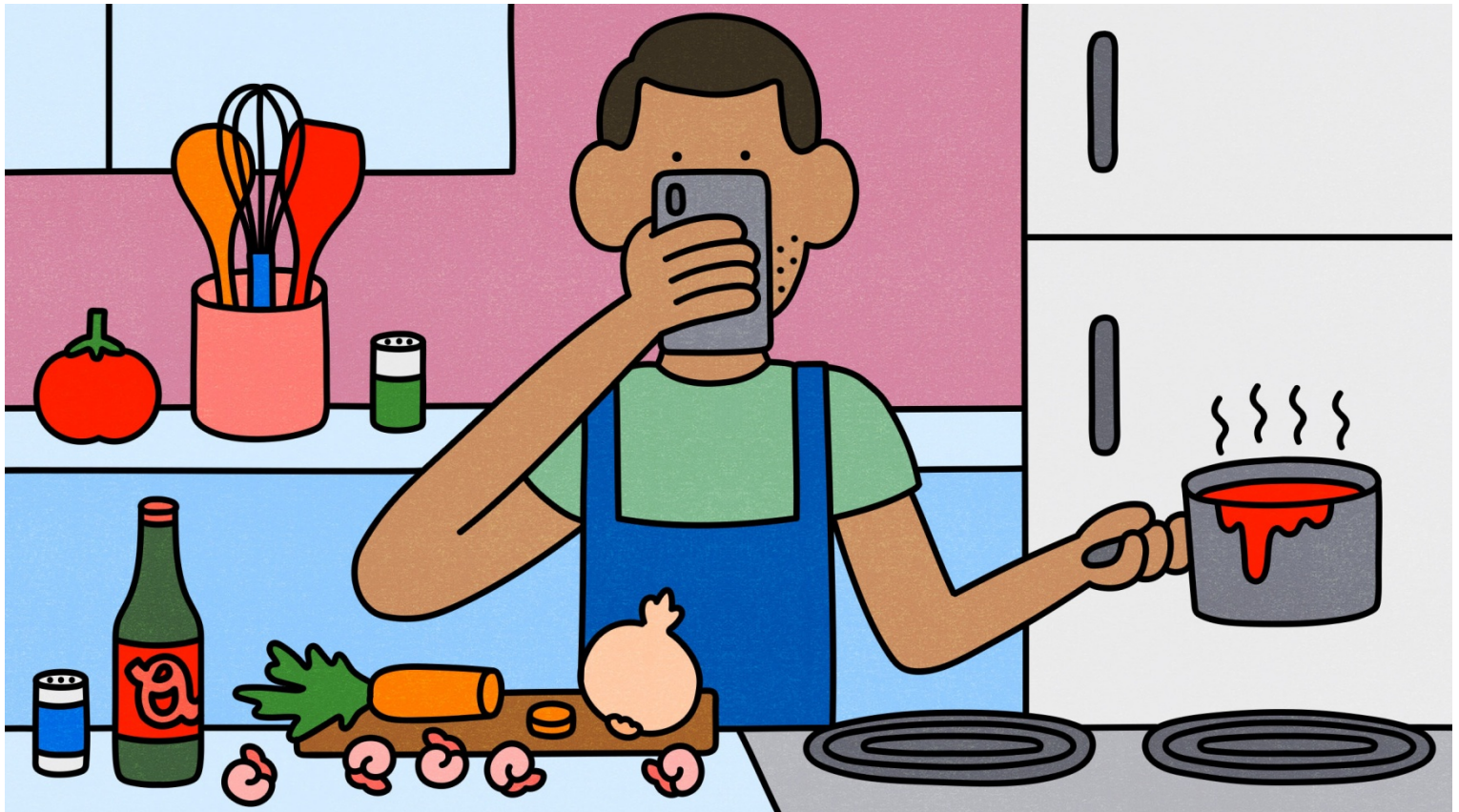
Blessings for All (Exploration)

Supplies: paper, colors, markers, pencils, etc (to draw your favorite food or recipe), and the recipe and items needed to prepare your food.

Wonder: What is your favorite food?

Who would you share your favorite food with?

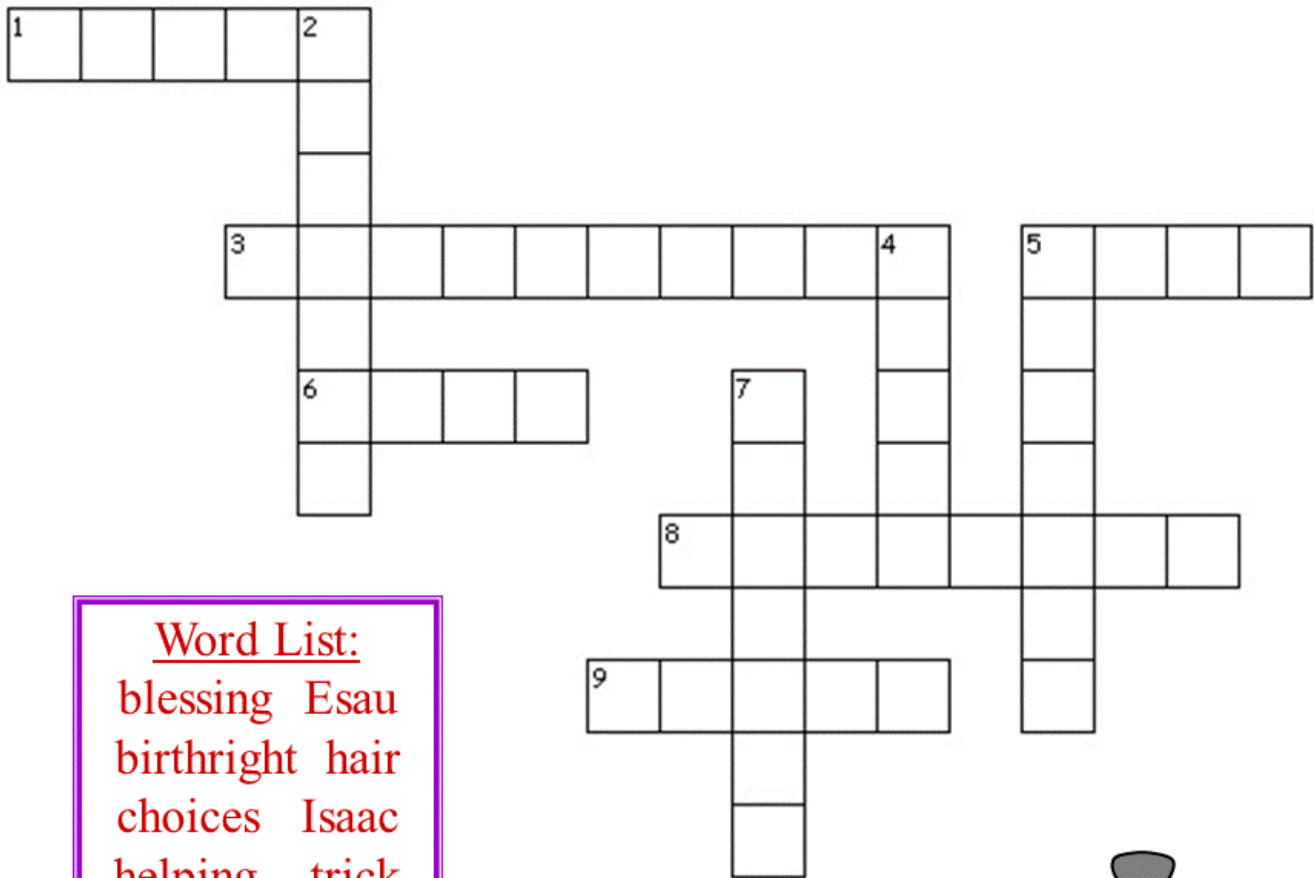
- Write or draw your favorite food or recipe.
- Then as a family, make one of your recipes.
- Cook and share a meal together.
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Angry Feet

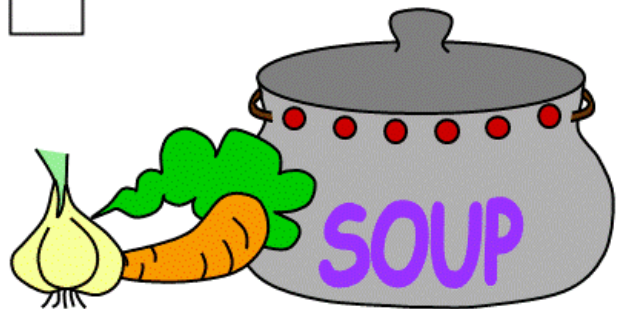


Jacob and Esau Crossword



Word List:

blessing Esau
birthright hair
choices Isaac
helping trick
hunting twins



Across

1. The name of Jacob and Esau's father.
3. Esau gave up this for a bowl of soup.
5. Jacob tricked his father by putting extra ____ on his body so he'd be more like Esau.
6. He was the first of the twins to be born.
8. Isaac gave this to Jacob instead of to Esau.
9. Rebekah came up with a way to ____ Isaac into giving his blessing to Jacob.

Down

2. This story is about making the right ____.
4. Jacob and Esau were not just brothers but were this as well.
5. Esau was good at ____ and doing things outside.
7. Jacob enjoyed ____ others, (especially his mom).