



PHUMC Sunday School lessons for Preschool – 5th grade.

November 8, 2020 – The Birthright (Genesis 25:29-34)

Prepare to Wonder

Faith Word: Blessing

Jacob and Esau, twin brothers, were very different. Esau liked to hunt and eat game. Jacob was quieter and enjoyed home life and cooking. It is thought that Esau was Isaac's favorite son, while Rebecca favored Jacob.

One day Esau came in from the field very hungry and demanded food from his brother Jacob who was making stew. So Jacob agreed to feed his brother, but he first asked for this brother's birthright in exchange. A birthright was something given to the oldest son. It gave the firstborn the status of being the leader of the family and gave him the right to the family's inheritance.

Esau was very hungry so he gave Jacob his birthright for some food. He gave up his birthright, the right of property and blessings, for a bowl of stew. This seems like a very impulsive decision. Esau wanted his immediate needs met and may have forgotten about the importance of his birthright. He may not have considered the consequences of his choice.

In our society, we sometimes act like Esau. We want things right here and now! We do not always think about how our actions could affect the future. Children can understand this concept. Children often want something right away.

Adults also have to make hard choices. It might be easier to make an impulsive decision that meets our immediate need. But, this story helps us to evaluate our actions and encourages us to take time to stop and think through our choices. If we make time to think, pray, and reflect before responding or deciding, we might just find the outcome is even better.

Spiritual Practice for Adults

This week practice STOP: S – stop, T – think through your actions, O – offer your choice to god, P – pray, and then proceed.

WONDER together

Do you have to make decisions? Is it hard or easy to choose?

Are you blessed?

Does everyone deserve to be blessed?

CONTINUE to Wonder

What does it mean to do the right thing?

Is it hard to know what is the right thing to do? Why or why not?

Wonder with Me

READ the Bible Story

Genesis 25:29-34 (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://youtu.be/UW1JBkYeoSo>

SHARE the Faith Word

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

WONDER: What has God blessed you with?

Spiritual Practice

Share the Celebrate Wonder Family Activity Book together (page 22 & 23). 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. 23).

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: Dear God, thank you for hearing our prayers, even the ones we don’t say out loud. 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

The Birthright

Genesis 25:29-34

Esau and Jacob continued to grow up. One day Esau returned home from hunting. Jacob was making lentil stew, and Esau was very hungry.

“Can I have some lentil stew and some bread, Jacob?” Esau asked.

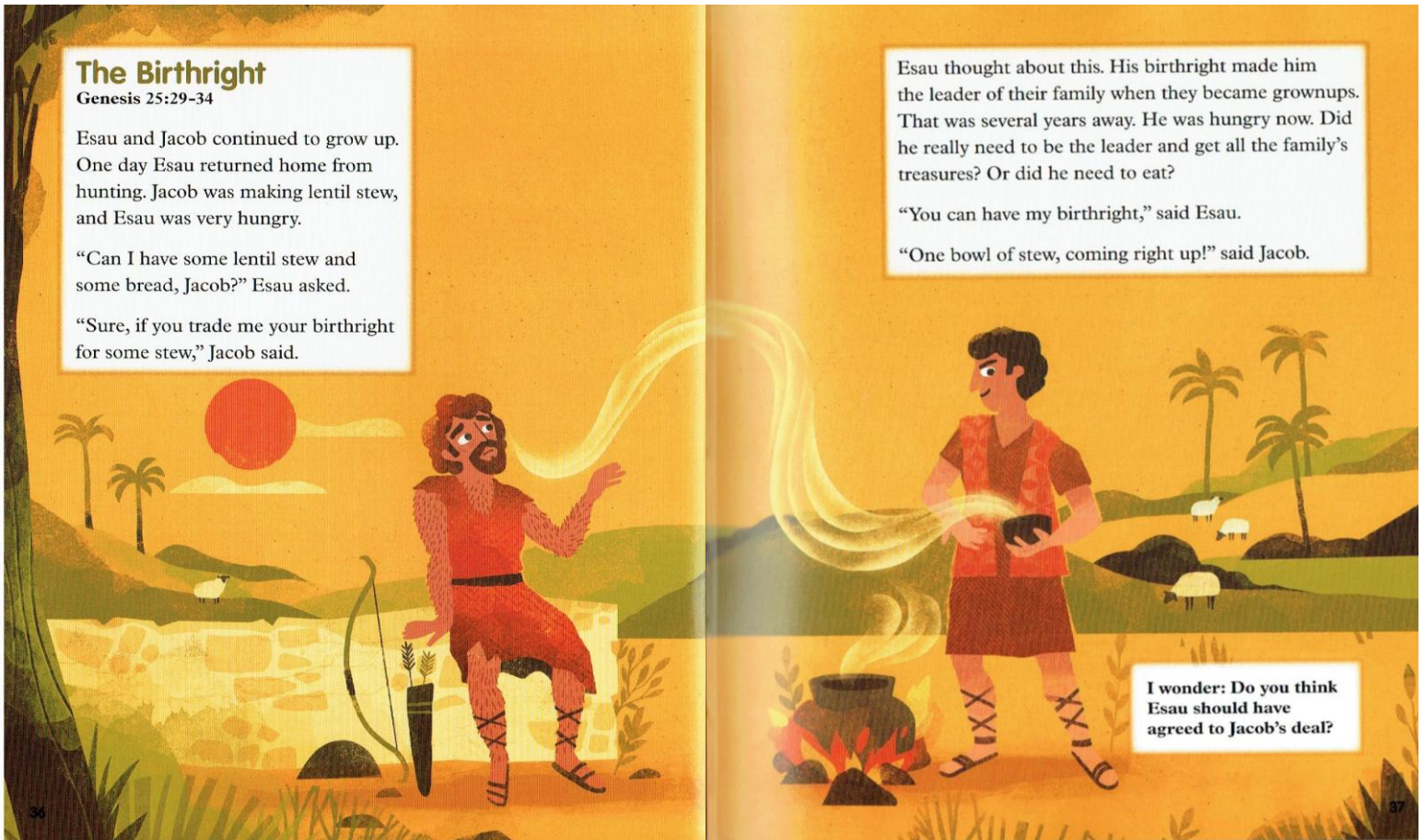
“Sure, if you trade me your birthright for some stew,” Jacob said.

Esau thought about this. His birthright made him the leader of their family when they became grownups. That was several years away. He was hungry now. Did he really need to be the leader and get all the family’s treasures? Or did he need to eat?

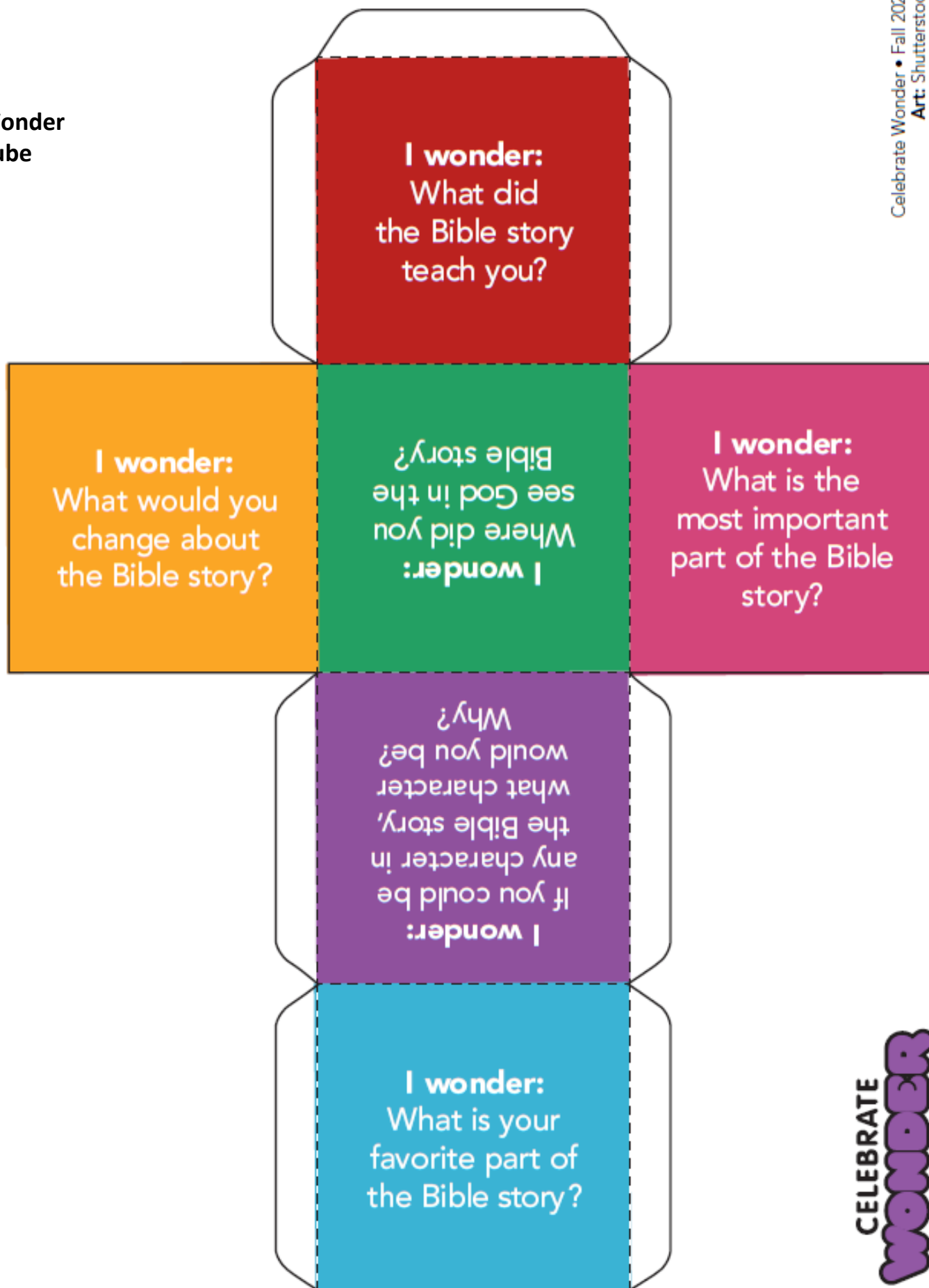
“You can have my birthright,” said Esau.

“One bowl of stew, coming right up!” said Jacob.

I wonder: Do you think Esau should have agreed to Jacob’s deal?



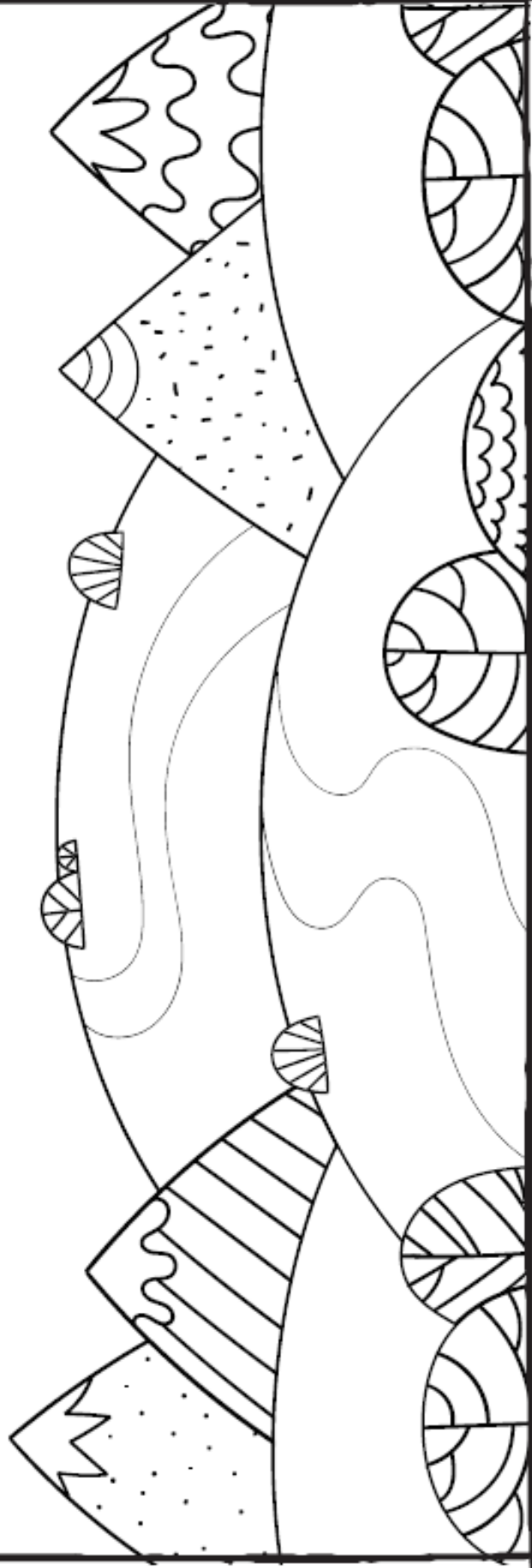
Wonder Cube



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

Explore through Music

Supplies: If you choose to do the Bonus Activity to this, you will need to print the Jacob/Esau Coloring sheet, and will need color crayons, and tape

Say: Let's pretend we are going to visit Isaac and Rebecca. We want to see their twin sons how that they have grown up.

- **Sing the following song to the tune of "She'll Be Coming 'Round the Mountain".**

Sing: Oh, Isaac and Rebecca had two sons.

Oh, Isaac and Rebecca had two sons.

Oh, the first son was named Esau, and the second was named Jacob.

Oh, Isaac and Rebecca had two sons.

*Bonus activity to do with the song – Print off the coloring page which has Jacob and Esau on it. Have your child color the sheet. When they are done, fold the sheet in half and tape the together and the side together. Show your child how to insert their hand in the bottom so that they now have a two sided puppet. Have them use their puppet as you all sing the song together.

Early Elementary Activity

Choose a Choice (Game)

Supplies: None

Say: In the Bible Story today, Esau made a choice. Sometimes choices can be hard. Enjoy the following scenarios and discuss how you might respond.

- Your parents ask you to clean your room, but you like playing with your toys. What choice do you make?
- A classmate is sitting alone at lunch. You are sitting with your friends. What choice do you make?
- You are using your favorite electronic, but your friend wants to play with you. What choice do you make?
- You are reading at your desk, but your teacher asks you to help a classmate with her math. What choice do you make?
- You are watching your favorite TV show, but your parents ask you to get ready for school. What choice do you make?
- You are talking with your friends at church, but someone asks you to help hand out the bulletins. What choice do you make?
- You want to go outside and ride your bike, but you still have homework to finish. What choice do you make?
- Someone is mean to your friend in front of you. Your friend begins to cry. What choice do you make?

Older Elementary Activity

Can You Wait? (Decision Making Activity)

Supplies: Individually wrapped candy

Say: Today we learned how Esau gave away his birthright for a meal. If he had waited, he would have had something much more than a bowl of stew. Let's do an activity to see if we can wait for something more.

- Give your child a piece of candy.
- Tell them they can eat the candy any time they wish.
- However, if they wait an hour, they will receive a second piece.

Wonder: How would the story be different if Esau had made a different choice?

Twins

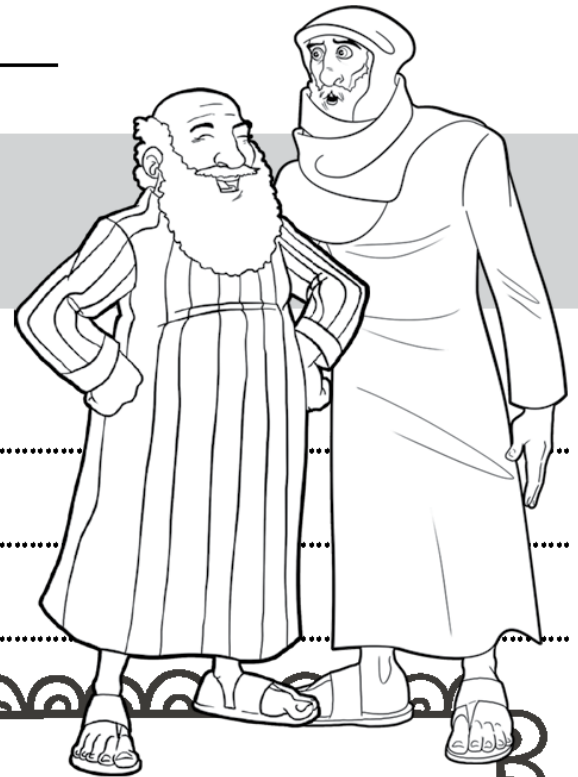
Preschool Activity Sheet



Every family of earth will be blessed because of you
and your descendants. (Genesis 28:14)

Jacob & Esau

Read Genesis 25:34 and write the Bible verse below.



1. Who was Jacob and Esau's father?

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2. How did God describe Esau?

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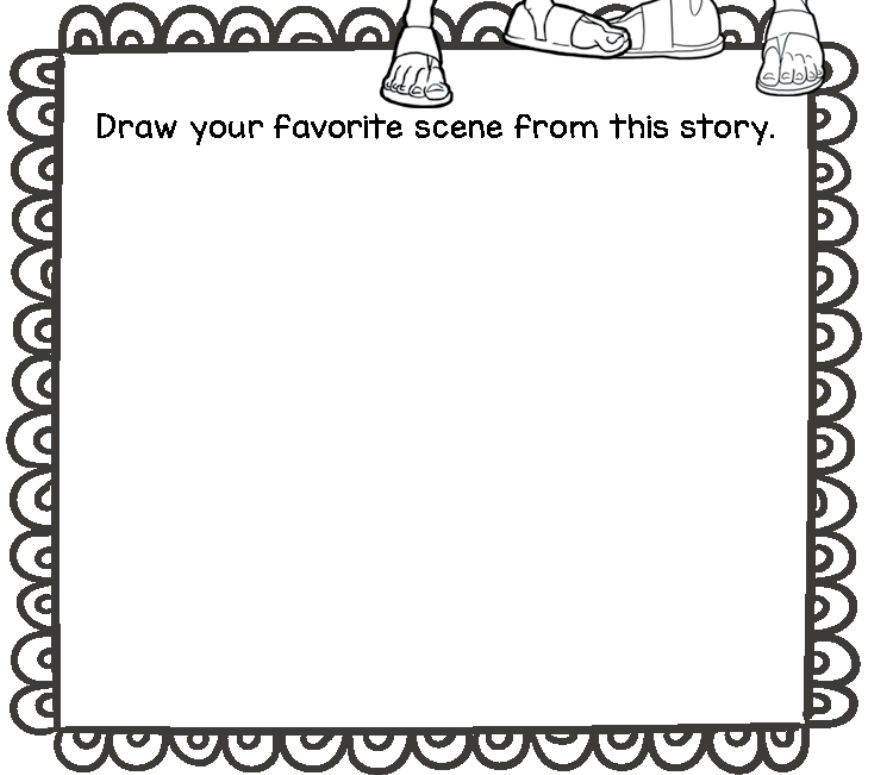
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3. For what food did Esau sell his birthright?

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Draw your favorite scene from this story.



What could the life
of Jacob & Esau teach me?

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God used
Jacob & Esau to...

.....

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