

VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH –YOUTH WORK

Sunday morning teaching plan



Date: 27th October 2024

TITLE:	Jacob: deceiver deceived!
THEME:	Jacob falls victim to a similar trick that he played on his family
AIM:	YPs to understand we are still accountable for our actions before God

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Jacob has fled to his family in the north, to his uncle Laban. Here he hopes to find a wife and to find refuge from his broken family relationships. (He caused most of it!) What he finds is a taste of his own medicine. His uncle Laban is a greedy, mean trickster and he uses Jacob's weakness for Rachel to trap him in to working for free. Jacob becomes the vulnerable one, the one who is deceived. God reveals to him the depths of his sin by allowing him to experience something similar. Sometimes God permits challenges in our lives in order to reveal a truth to us. However hard it may be.

WARM UP

Do three cups one ball.. .guessing where ball is. Can you deceive the group? On line version on PPT
Ask if anyone has ever fallen victim to a trick/prank/ scam?

MAIN TEACHING

Read Genesis 29:15-30 / watch cheesy video

1. How would you describe the character of Laban? Where in the text do you see this?
2. What are the similarities between what Laban did and what Jacob did to deceive his father?
Look at v25-26. now compare it to Genesis 27:18-22.
3. Why do you think God allows this to happen to the one whom he has chosen?
4. Is it fair?

Key teaching: The first born should receive the blessing. Jacob deceived his father to get it. Laban uses this against Jacob. The elder should marry first! Laban is pointing out that Jacob has deceived his family, is it not ok for him to be deceived... using similar logic! Laban is crafty businessman. He is using Jacob's weakness for Rachel in the same way Jacob used Esau and Isaac's weakness. He is taking Jacob for as much as he can. Free labour for 14 years! God is at work here. He needs to let Jacob see that his actions have been deceitful and he has done wrong. By experiencing something similar, Jacob's eyes are opened to his sin. Jacob paid the price for his deception 14 years work with no pay! We too will have to face up to our actions before God!

Key teaching: Jacob was on a path to destruction, like Laban he was deceitful and self centred.

God stepped into his life and rescued him. He revealed that he was chosen by God to be part of God's promise to rescue humanity from sin. God began to bless Jacob once he had recognised his failures. However, Jacob was still not perfect. He still made mistakes.

Explain that all humans are like Jacob... on a path to destruction, separated from God. God calls each one of us and we have to choose to respond.

Use the Bridge illustration to explain that we are saved by God's grace and not our own efforts. **On PPT**
If we place our faith in Jesus, he bears the cost of our sin, we are forgiven.

However, this does not absolve us of responsibility for our actions.

What does the Bible say about Judgement? 2 Corinthians 5:10 Romans 14:12-13 Revelation 20:11-15

What does it say about how we should behave? Micah 6:8 Galatians 5:22-23 Mark 12:30-31

Key teaching: All people will be judged according to their actions. If you have faith in Jesus, your sinful actions are taken care of by Jesus. You will not be held responsible for them. (Justification) The Bible commands us to become holy like Jesus. (This is a long process called sanctification) We will still make mistakes, but as we seek forgiveness each day God will slowly change us into the person we were intended to be!

Use the PPT page on the Holy Spirit to show how He changes believers behaviour to be more holy.

Quiet time of reflection.

Some colouring to focus their mind on the need for forgiveness

TAKEAWAY

Our actions matter. We will all face the consequences of them. If we trust Jesus God forgives our sinful actions and helps us to become more holy. We have to actively choose to be holy. The holy Spirit makes it happen.

POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES/ RESOURCES

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E1EE4PorAIU>

Colouring sheet on forgiveness.