

Esau

Genesis 25:27-30

Jacob

Genesis 25:27-34



Jacob tricks Isaac.

Genesis 27:1-45

Isaac had two grown-up sons named Jacob and Esau. One day Isaac told Esau, "I am getting old. I want to give you my blessing before I die." (The blessing was a special promise given to the family's new leader.) Isaac wanted Esau to be that new leader. Isaac asked Esau to go hunting and cook Isaac's favorite food. Then Isaac would give Esau the blessing. Esau went hunting right away!

But Jacob and Esau's mother, Rebekah, wanted Jacob to be the new leader of the family, instead of Esau. She told Jacob, "We will get the blessing for you instead. Quickly, while Esau is gone, do what I tell you."

Rebekah told Jacob to put on Esau's clothes. This made Jacob smell like Esau. She put hairy pieces of goatskin on Jacob's hands and neck. This made Jacob feel more like Esau, because Esau had a lot of hair. Isaac could not see very well, so Rebekah

and Jacob hoped Isaac would think Jacob WAS Esau! Rebekah made Isaac's favorite meal.

Jacob took the food to his father. Then he told a lie. "It's me, Esau," Jacob said. "I've made your favorite food." The tricks worked! Isaac said, "It sounds like Jacob's voice, but these hands feel like Esau's."

After Isaac ate, he asked God to give his son many good things. He asked God to make his son a great leader. Isaac's prayer was called a blessing. He thought he was blessing Esau. But he was really blessing Jacob!

Soon Esau came home. When Esau found out Jacob had tricked their father, he was very angry. He wanted to hurt Jacob! Jacob had to go away for many years. Because Jacob didn't do what was right, his family was sad and angry.