In the Beginning...Jesus

Lesson 12
Jacob's Deceit and God's Design

Themes:
- Before his birth, God chose Jacob to inherit the covenantal promise made to Abraham and Isaac.
- Neither Jacob nor Esau deserved God's special promises.
- God chose to be merciful to Jacob.
- Man's sin cannot thwart God's design.

Scripture:
Portions of Genesis 25; 27-28

Memory Verse:
Review Isaiah 53:3-8

Today's Clue:
There was no clue revealed today.

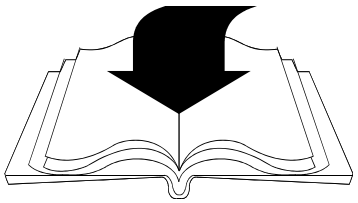
Home and Heart:
Ask your child to recall something he may have wanted very badly (e.g., a puppy, a new bike, seeing a friend who lives far away, etc.). Was it something good? It may have been good, but is it wrong to try to get something good through being tricky or by taking advantage of someone else's wrong actions? What was wrong about how Jacob went about getting Esau's birthright and Isaac's blessing? Was he acting by faith—depending on God to keep His promise made before Jacob was born? (Genesis 25:23.) What could Jacob have done differently? How is the fact that he acted like he did evidence of what was in his heart? How did Esau show his own sin? What did he regard as more precious than God's promise? Have you sometimes treated other things or people as more precious than God and His promises? Give your child concrete examples of what this looks like. What does this show us about our own heart at times? What does this show us that we desperately need?

In our story, how did God cause the actions of sinful people to serve His design and plan? Read and discuss Job 42:2 and Isaiah 14:27. Have you seen an example in your own life?

Even though Jacob's deceit could not ruin God's design, did Jacob still suffer consequences of his sin? In what ways? Most importantly, how did his sin offend God? When he took matters into his own hands, what was he saying about God's goodness and His ability to keep His promise? Have you felt the consequence of your own sin? How has your sin affected other people? What consequences have you suffered because of it? How does your sin offend God? Is there anything you can do about this? Read and discuss 1 John 1:8-9. Who is the "he" in these verses? See verse 7.



REVIEW



ISAIAH 53:3-8

He was despised and rejected by men; a Man of A, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we B Him not.

Surely He has borne our C and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and D.

But He was E for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us F, and with His stripes we are G.

All we like sheep have gone H; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his I; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its J is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

By oppression and K he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the L of my people?

WHAT MISSING WORD DOES EACH LETTER STAND FOR?

_____ **afflicted**	_____ **mouth**
_____ **astray**	_____ **peace**
_____ **esteemed**	_____ **wounded**
_____ **healed**	_____ **shearers**
_____ **griefs**	_____ **sorrows**
_____ **judgment**	_____ **transgression**