

The BIBLE Story

God's Promise to Isaac

Genesis 25–26

Abraham's son Isaac married Rebekah. After many years, they still did not have any children. **Isaac prayed and asked God to give them a baby.** God answered Isaac's prayer. **Rebekah became pregnant with twins**—two babies!—but the babies fought inside of her.

Rebekah was worried.

“Why is this happening?” she asked God. God told Rebekah part of His plan. **God said, “Your sons will grow up and their families will be two separate nations. One nation will be stronger than the other, and the older son will serve the younger.”**

When Rebekah's babies were born, the older was called **Esau** (EE saw). He was red-looking and hairy. **The younger was named Jacob.**

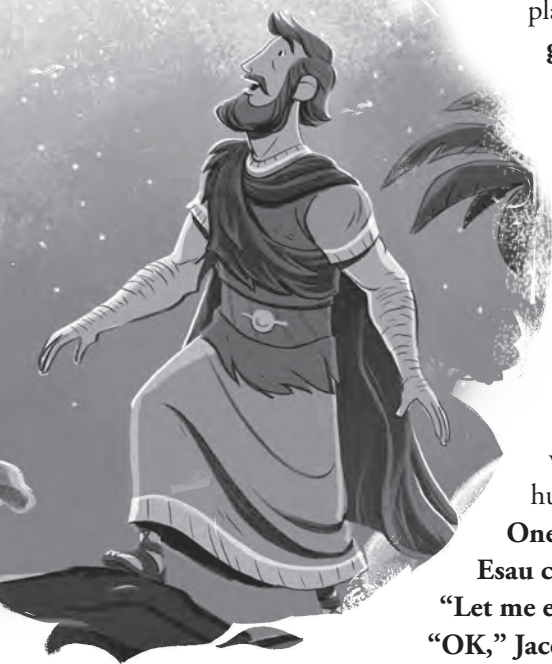
When the boys grew up, they were very different. Esau was a hunter, and Jacob stayed at home.

One day, Jacob was cooking stew.

Esau came in from the field and said,

“Let me eat some of that.”

“OK,” Jacob said, “but first you have to sell me your birthright.” A birthright was something only the firstborn son was supposed to get. **Esau did not care about his birthright, so he agreed to give it to Jacob** for some bread and stew.



Some time later, Isaac went to Gerar (geh RAHR) because there was not enough food in the land. **God appeared to him and said, “Live in the land I will tell you about. I will be with you and bless you. I will keep the promise I made to your father Abraham.”**

God said He would give Isaac a big family—as numerous as the stars—and land for his family. **God would bless the earth through His family.** God said, “I will do this because Abraham listened to Me and kept My commands.” So Isaac made his home in Gerar.

Christ connection: God’s promise for Abraham was for Isaac too. When Esau gave up his birthright, that meant Jacob would get the blessings God promised. One day, God would send Jesus to earth through Jacob’s family. He would bring blessing and salvation to the world.

Bible Storytelling Tips

- **Move with the story:** Move all the way across the room when Isaac goes to Gerar and tell the rest of the story from a new location.
- **Use props:** Use dolls, people figures, or other toys to play out the story of Jacob and Esau.