

Parish of the Epiphany

Faith at Home: Week of January 30, 2022

Storymakers Stars Chapter 9: The Trick

Overview:

This week we continue to learn about Jacob and his place in God's story. Last week we met Jacob (the grandson of Abraham and the son of Isaac) and we learned of his jealousy of his twin brother, Esau. Jacob wants Esau's birthright, his inheritance as the older (if only by minutes) brother. This week Jacob takes his trickery even further.

Our takeaways include:

There are a lot of twists and turns in this story—and more to come! But God is with us all through the twists and turns of life.

Stars Chapter 9: The Trick

Do you have a favorite Halloween costume? Or maybe a favorite dress-up outfit? What is it? Why is it your favorite?

We are starting with the idea of costumes, like for Trick or Treating on Halloween, because today our chapter is called The Trick, and our story involves a disguise. What do we remember about Jacob? He's kind of tricky, right? He used his brother's extreme hunger to get him to promise Jacob his inheritance! Well, knowing that about Jacob, take a look at the picture on page 71.

What do we see in this picture? Does this give you a clue about our story?

Here's a weird thing you need to know before reading the story: people who study the Bible think that Esau was an unusually hairy man. We saw that last week with the beard. But he might have had really hairy arms or hands. Esau was also a hunter.

Something else you need to know: Isaac, who is Jacob and Esau's father, is now very very old. He's so very old that he's going blind, and he probably is near the end of his life.

Read the story together. *Does anyone want to suggest a place where they might be God in this story?*

Pages 75-78: Explore the story, and your personal reaction to it, together.

Remember:

There are all sorts of twists and turns in this story. There are a lot of twists and turns in our lives, too. But God is with us through the parts of our stories.

Ending prayer:

Dear Lord, thank you for being with us through our whole lives. When life takes lots of twists and turns, thank you for staying right by our sides. Help us to remember that you are always with us; in good times and hard times. Help us to be with others and love them, always—even when they aren't their best selves. Amen.

This Chapter's Envelope:

Make Some Disguises

This envelope has little pieces, so find a work station where you won't accidentally spread them around the house or let your dog eat them!

Don't forget your prayer dough! The little plastic container has just enough lavender prayer dough for you to roll in your hands while you take deep breaths and focus your heart of God. What feelings do you want to share with God today?