

At Home Weekly is designed for you to use during the week with your son or daughter. You'll find out what they learned today at church, and can help them prepare for next week by exploring the theme (or Ponder Point) and spending time together in God's Word.

WHAT WE LEARNED THIS WEEK

PONDER POINT: GOD IS PROVIDER

Abraham and Isaac

Genesis 18; 21—22

Abraham waited 25 years for the birth of Isaac, the son God had promised him. Isaac was the fulfillment of God's promise, the son through whom Abraham's family was to be blessed. But later God tested Abraham by asking him to sacrifice Isaac. Abraham made the difficult choice to obey God, choosing God over Isaac. Abraham believed God would raise Isaac from the dead (Hebrews 11:19) if necessary in order to fulfill His promise about Isaac. But just before Abraham completed the sacrifice, God stopped him and provided a ram to sacrifice in Isaac's place. God provided.

WHERE WE'RE HEADED NEXT TIME

PONDER POINT: GOD IS LORD

Jacob and Esau

Genesis 25:19—34; 27:1—41

Isaac and Rebekah were married for almost twenty years before they prayed and Rebekah became pregnant with twin boys, Jacob and Esau. When Rebekah asked God why her unborn twins were struggling, God told her that two nations would be born. The younger would be stronger than the older. Later, when Isaac was ready to give the blessing, he wanted to give it to Esau, but Jacob and Rebekah plotted together so Jacob received the blessing. However, the means through which Jacob received the blessing cost him. He had to run for his life, live in exile until after his mother's death, and be cheated by his own uncle.

DID YOU KNOW?

Share these facts to get the conversation started.

- The birthright gave the oldest son, Esau, the privilege of a double portion of the inheritance as well as the title of leader of the family.
- Esau cared so little for his spiritual heritage that he gave Jacob his birthright in exchange for a bowl of stew.
- Esau had hairy arms and Jacob did not. Rebekah helped Jacob dress in goatskins that would make Jacob feel like Esau. This tricked Isaac, who was blind, into giving the blessing to Jacob instead of Esau.



CONNECT AS A FAMILY

Gather your children and read **Genesis 27:17–29** (*Fire Bible, pp. 35–36). After you have finished reading, explain to your children that a blessing today is different from the blessing in this Bible passage. That blessing was a prophecy and included the promise of the Messiah coming from the family of the one who received the blessing. Today, a blessing is a way of inviting God to work in our lives. Encourage your kids to hold their hands in front of them, palms up. This posture is meant to symbolize a willingness of heart to respond to God's Holy Spirit and to receive what God has for them. As your children remain in this posture, pray a prayer of blessing over them.

After reading the Scripture passage, discuss these questions together:

- Why do you think Jacob wanted the blessing so badly?
- What was so important about the birthright blessing?
- How can you show thankfulness for God's blessings in your life?

These questions can easily extend into the rest of the week. Look for chances to bring conversations about how God is Lord into your everyday life as a family.

REMEMBER VERSE

The Remember Verse focuses on a character trait of God that's highlighted in next week's portion of The Big God Story.

Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
Psalm 90:2

BLESSING

Blessings are often used in the Bible. A blessing can be a prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), **may you know that God is Lord. May you feel His presence each day. May you understand and believe that He is always working everything out for your good as you love and obey Him.**

For more information about blessing your child, go to <https://trufirecurriculum.com>.
And for more creative ideas on spiritually leading your family, visit HomeFrontMag.com.

