

## Jacob | Lesson Plan

How did Jacob learn to admit his faults and accept responsibility for his actions?

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Through the Biblical account of Jacob's life, students will understand the importance of admitting fault, accepting responsibility for their actions, and implementing positive change.

### Learning Objectives:

- Examine the life events and behavior of the Biblical character Jacob.
- Recognize that deception and trickery lead to difficulty for ourselves and others.
- Explain that the admission of fault is a necessary part of growing up to be a responsible adult.
- Develop strategies to implement positive change in their own lives.

### Key Vocabulary:

- **Deceiver:** Someone who is not honest and purposefully tries to trick others.
- **Inheritance:** Family money or property that a person receives when a parent or other family member dies.
- **Birthright:** Honors and privileges given to a person based on the order they were born in the family.
- **Prosperity:** The state of being successful, especially in terms of wealth, health, and happiness.

**Educational Standards:** CCRA.L.1, CCRA.L.2, CCRA.L.4, CCRA.W.4, CCRA.R.7, CCRA.SL.1, CCRA.SL.2 CCRA.SL.4, CCRA.W.2

**Academic Subject Areas:** Biography, Bible, Character Development

### What You'll Need

- Video: *Jacob: The Man Who Wrestled with God* (Watch [Here](#))
- Worksheet: *Jacob: The Man Who Wrestled with God* (Click [Here](#))
- Sticky notes, one per child

### Lesson Plan (45 minutes)

Warm Up: (10 minutes)

1. Begin by engaging students in a broad discussion about the benefits of accepting responsibility for wrongdoing.
2. Challenge students to think of a time they did something they knew was wrong.
3. Ask students to consider how they handled the aftermath of their actions. Did they try to cover up their mistake or admit their fault?



4. Explain that it's always best to admit fault and take responsibility. Deception leads to unnecessary confusion and can cause long-term difficulty for ourselves and others.
5. Reveal that the class will watch a video about Jacob from the Bible—someone who learned (sometimes the hard way) the importance of admitting fault and accepting responsibility.
6. Provide background for the video's subject: Jacob was an Old Testament hero who demonstrated God's power and grace to transform and renew. He was known for his cunning and deceitful actions, particularly against his twin brother Esau. But after Jacob wrestled with God, he received God's blessings and was given a new identity and a new name: Israel.
7. Give each student a copy of the "Jacob Worksheet."
8. Direct students to complete the worksheet as they watch the video.

Watch and Complete: (20 minutes)

1. Watch the video as a class.
2. Pause the video after each key question and concept is presented.

Wrap-Up: (15 minutes)

1. After the video, allow students a few minutes to complete the worksheet.
2. Collect the completed worksheet as a formative assessment or participation credit.
3. As a culminating exercise, pose the following review questions:
  - What are some specific ways that Jacob deceived others? How was Jacob himself deceived by others?
  - How do you think deception and trickery can lead to chaos?
  - Why do you think it's important to admit mistakes and take responsibility for wrong actions?
4. Encourage students to reflect on life lessons to be learned from Jacob's life: Admitting fault isn't always easy, but it's part of growing up to be a responsible young adult. True change is possible when people are honest and accept responsibility for their actions.
5. In conclusion, give each student a sticky note. Ask the class to reflect silently on positive changes they would like to make in their attitudes, behaviors, study habits, etc.
6. On their sticky notes, invite volunteers to write at least one specific change they would like to make.
7. Give students the option of either placing the note on a predetermined spot on a whiteboard or bulletin board in the class (to share with the class and for accountability) or taking it home to display as a personal reminder there.

**Don't have time for the full lesson? Quick Activity (15 minutes)**

Distribute the worksheet and allow students to complete it while they follow along with the video.