



**Beautiful**  
**BIBLE TREASURES**  
**For Children**

**Lesson 21**

**Level A—Little Bible Treasures:**

Being Friends Again

**Level B—Children's Bible Treasures:**

Being Friends Again

**Level C— Story Time with Jesus:**

Being Friends Again

**Level D— What Does it Actually Say?:**

Being Friends Again

**Level E— Bible Bits: Books of the Bible (Joshua-2 Kings)/  
Topic Treasures—God's Forgiveness**

## Being Friends Again

Jacob wanted to be kind to his brother Esau, and to say he was sorry for what he had done to make his brother sad.

Jacob prayed that Esau would forgive him. God sent angels to Jacob to talk to him and encourage him on his journey back to his home land.

Jacob then gave his brother lots of animals as gifts, since Jacob had lots, and spoke kindly to him.

He was trying to make things right again with this brother, and give back to Esau some of the blessings that God had given him.

Jacob knew it was only God who gave him all that he now had. Esau gave him a hug and showed him forgiveness. They became friends again!



## Being Friends Again

While Jacob travelled back to his home land, he was worried.

“What if Esau doesn't forgive me? I want to be friends again!”

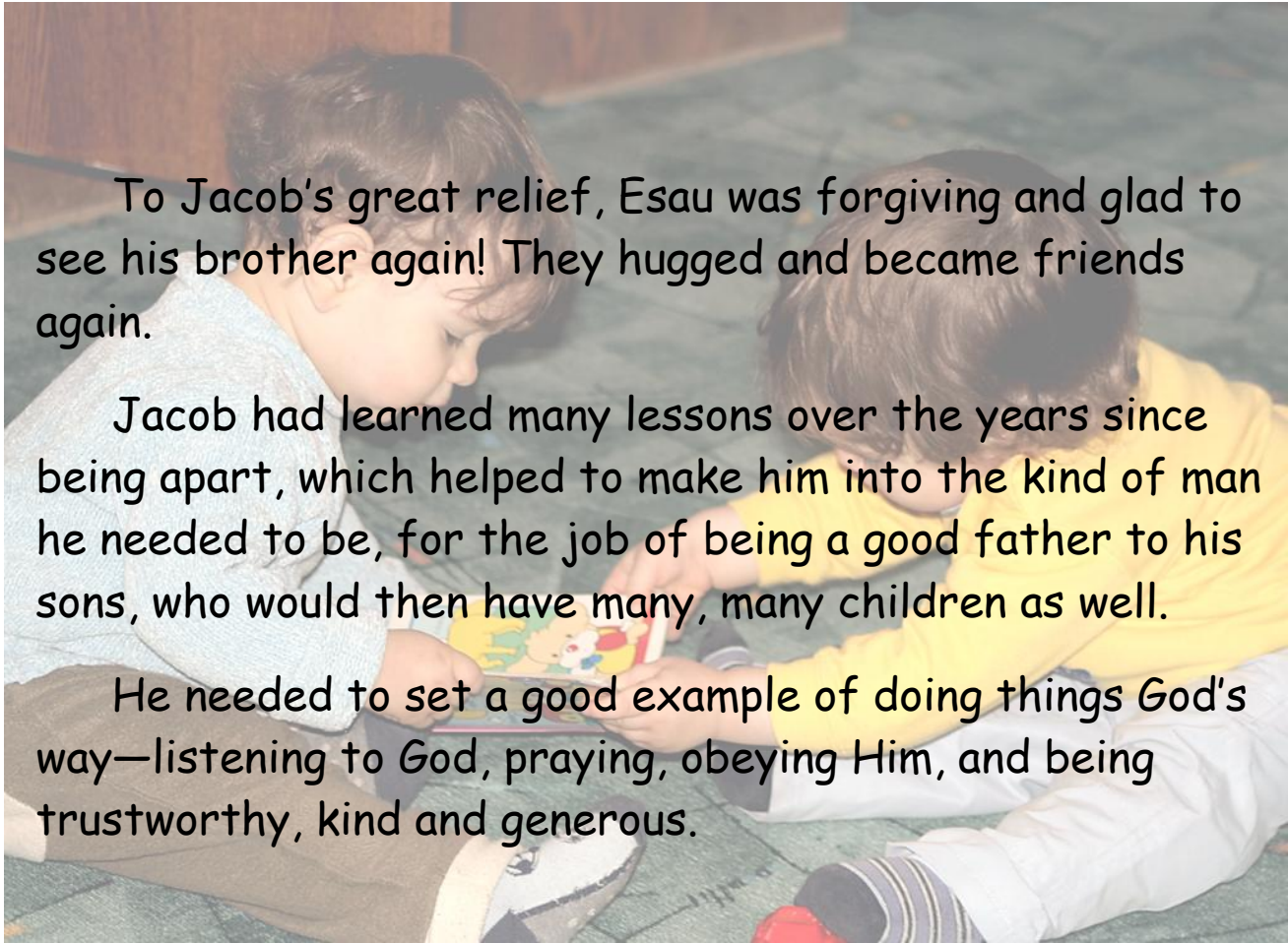
Jacob did a lot of praying on that trip back home with his big team—his family, all their helpers, and all the animals.

He prayed and prayed some more, and got some good ideas from God on what to do, what would help Esau to feel better and to realise that Jacob was sorry for acting the way he did, many years before.

God sent angels to encourage Jacob as he neared the place where Esau was living, telling him it was going to be all right.

Jacob sent some of the people as well as his family on up ahead to meet Esau first, and to give him a very big gift—many goats, sheep, camels, cows and donkeys!





To Jacob's great relief, Esau was forgiving and glad to see his brother again! They hugged and became friends again.

Jacob had learned many lessons over the years since being apart, which helped to make him into the kind of man he needed to be, for the job of being a good father to his sons, who would then have many, many children as well.

He needed to set a good example of doing things God's way—listening to God, praying, obeying Him, and being trustworthy, kind and generous.

### Activity

\*Cut out little circles of paper, and draw a smile on one side of each circle, and a frown on the other side. Place them all with the frown sides up. Each time someone thinks of something kind to say, to show apology or forgiveness or kind words of love and appreciation, a circle can be flipped over to show the smile, until at last all are smiles!

## Being Friends Again



Do you remember how Isaac, the father of Jacob and Esau, spoke words of blessing to Jacob, thinking it was Esau? And how it had made Esau so angry, that Jacob could no longer live there in peace?

Well, Jacob had to leave, and he had a difficult time living with Laban. However, Jacob had been blessed and had a great abundance of things considered important to people back then.

Jacob and his team, and all the animals—their wealth—were moving back again to his former living area. But there was one thing that needed to be smoothed out. Jacob was extremely concerned and uneasy. What would Esau be like? Was he still upset with him? Would he forgive Jacob for what was done so many years ago?

Jacob knew he was meant to move back there again, but just because the Lord wants you to do something doesn't mean it will all be easy or problem-free.

Jacob needed some encouragement as they travelled nearer to the place where his brother lived. God sent angels to Jacob to show him that he was not alone. That helped give him the courage to keep on going.

Jacob realised that the only reason why he was rich and had so much was because God had blessed him. It wasn't something he could have made happen himself. So he had an idea—to give to his brother a large gift, since he felt he'd made Esau miss out a bit.

Jacob chose many camels, sheep, goats, cows and donkeys to give to his brother. He then sent messengers to tell Esau that he, Jacob, was coming back, and that he had gifts to present to him.

The messengers returned with the news that Esau was coming to meet Jacob, and not just him alone, but with 400 men. This got Jacob pretty worried, wondering what would happen next. It seemed Esau hadn't forgiven him.

Jacob was very desperate for God to bring peace between him and his brother. He wanted them to all live in peace. Jacob knew only God could do such a miracle and change Esau's heart to one holding forgiveness and kindness, and wanting friendship with him. Prayer that was determined to see the answer become a reality was his only hope now.

He prayed with all his heart, in humility, and quoted the promises God had made to Abraham and to Isaac, that they'd be blessed with many children and grow into a great nation. In prayer he expressed to God that he was only returning to this land because He had told him to, and had promised it would go well.

When Jacob rose the next day he chose what the gift to his brother was to be, and sent it with his messengers.

Gifts back then were different than they are now. He wanted to give Esau 220 goats, 220 sheep, 30 camels and their colts, 50 cows, and 30 donkeys. That was a big gift!



Next he sent all his possessions, and teams of his family and children, and the rest of his animals on ahead. Jacob needed time alone. While everyone else travelled, and prepared to meet Esau, giving the gifts and being friendly, Jacob stayed back for a little while to pray and talk with God alone.

An angel met him once more, and Jacob begged for a victory in this matter. He wasn't going to just pray a little mild prayer, one that he didn't really expect anything to happen. But he held on to that angel, he wrestled, he pleaded, he wouldn't let go until the answer was granted.

He was all night struggling, praying, pleading. Finally when it was dawn, the angel asked Jacob to stop, and let go of him. But Jacob still wouldn't give up. He said he wouldn't let go until he got God's blessing to make things go well in this next part of his life. Then the blessing was granted.

Jacob then had the courage and faith to travel on to meet with his brother. Jacob had the gifts sent on ahead, to be brought to his brother. Next came the teams of children and mothers. Finally Jacob approached, walking in humility.

As was the custom of showing respect, Jacob bowed down to the ground, not just once, but seven times, before he stood in front of Esau his brother.

The miracle he prayed for had happened. The brothers hugged, talked, and were friends again. Esau forgave Jacob, and they parted again, each going their own way—this time happily.

So if you have something that isn't going well between you and someone else, this story holds some tips for you: be patient, pray, be humble, give generously, pray some more, do what God's asking you to do, ask for angels to help you, and be kind. You'll most likely see things change for the better, though some changes may take some time.







## Let's Talk About It

\*Is there something that your brother or sister or friend has done that has saddened you? Have you worked it out yet? What can you do to make things right?

\*Why is it best to forgive others? What would happen if no one ever did? What does "holding grudges" do to people's hearts and homes?

## Activity

\*Take time to make simple, home-made gifts or cards. Give them to someone who you need to apologize to or make things right with. Write a little note to go along with it. (Or it can be given to someone who did something to bother you, but they haven't apologized to you. You can take the first step to say how it made you feel, but that you want to be friends and you forgive them anyway.)

## Being Friends Again



### Connect and Communicate

\*Give each other a topic to pray for, and all take a silent moment to pray for it all at the same time, just in your heart and mind.

### Study Fun

Draw: A little heart near the kind or polite or humble ways different ones acted in this passage.

✓ Checkmark: The places where Jacob prays, or God talks with Him.

Write: A list of the animals mentioned, and write in numerals how many of each type Jacob gave to his brother.

### Genesis

**32:1** And Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him.

**32:2** And when Jacob saw them, he said, This is God's host: and he called the name of that place Mahanaim.

**32:3** And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother unto the land of Seir, the country of Edom.

**32:4** And he commanded them, saying, Thus shall ye speak unto my lord Esau; Thy servant Jacob saith thus, I have sojourned with Laban, and stayed there until now:

**32:5** And I have oxen, and asses, flocks, and menservants, and womenservants: and I have sent to tell my lord, that I may find grace in thy sight.

**32:6** And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, We came to thy brother Esau, and also he cometh to meet thee, and four hundred men with him.

**32:7** Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed: and he divided the people that was with him, and the flocks, and herds, and the camels, into two bands;

**32:9** And Jacob said, O God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, the Lord which saidst unto me, Return unto thy country, and to thy kindred, and I will deal well with thee:

**32:10** I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which thou hast shewed unto thy servant; for with my staff I passed over this Jordan; and now I am become two bands.

**32:11** Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau: for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, and the mother with the children.

**32:12** And thou saidst, I will surely do thee good, and make thy seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.

**32:13** And he lodged there that same night; and took of that which came to his hand a present for Esau his brother;

**32:14** Two hundred she goats, and twenty he goats, two hundred ewes, and twenty rams,



**32:15** Thirty milch camels with their colts, forty kine, and ten bulls, twenty she asses, and ten foals.

**33:2** And he put the handmaids and their children foremost, and Leah and her children after, and Rachel and Joseph hindermost.

**33:3** And he passed over before them, and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother.

**33:4** And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him: and they wept.

**33:5** And he lifted up his eyes, and saw the women and the children; and said, Who are those with thee? And he said, The children which God hath graciously given thy servant.



**33:6** Then the handmaidens came near, they and their children, and they bowed themselves.

**33:7** And Leah also with her children came near, and bowed themselves: and after came Joseph near and Rachel, and they bowed themselves.

**33:8** And he said, What meanest thou by all this drove which I met? And he said, These are to find grace in the sight of my lord.

**33:9** And Esau said, I have enough, my brother; keep that thou hast unto thyself.

**33:10** And Jacob said, Nay, I pray thee, if now I have found grace in thy sight, then receive my present at my hand: for therefore I have seen thy face, as though I had seen the face of God, and thou wast pleased with me.

**33:11** Take, I pray thee, my blessing that is brought to thee; because God hath dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough. And he urged him, and he took it.

**33:16** So Esau returned that day on his way unto Seir.

### Activity

\*Contribute ideas for ways to express apologies in words and actions, as well as ways to show forgiveness and acceptance.

## Fountain of Faith

**Psalms 29:11** The Lord will give strength unto his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

**Psalms 27:14** Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.



## Books of the Bible (Joshua-2 Kings)

### Praise

**Psalm 103:1,2** Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits:

\*Act out something you are thankful for. Have others guess, and take their turn.

### Joshua

Joshua led God's people after Moses died. Joshua brought the people into the land that God had promised to them. With God's help, Joshua and the people claimed the city of Jericho, as God instructed. Joshua also directed the people to obey God's law (Joshua 5, Joshua 7 and Joshua 24). The Book of Joshua also contains records about the division of land (Joshua chapters 13-21).

The Book of Joshua is a history book from the Bible's Old Testament.

**Joshua 23:14b** Not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof.

### Judges

The Book of Judges is a history book in the Old Testament of the Bible. But it does not only contain history. It also teaches us to trust God more. The Book of Judges contains the history of about 300 years when Israel had no

king. Instead, God appointed special people, called 'judges' to lead the people. These 'judges' were not like the judges of today. They were prophets (and one prophetess), whom God called. They helped the people to serve God. When there was a judge, the people obeyed God, but when there was no judge the people forgot God, and God let troubles come. So the people asked God to help. And then God appointed another judge. Some of the famous judges were Deborah, Gideon and Samson.

**Judges 5:31b** Let them that love him be as the sun when he goeth forth in his might.

## Ruth

The Book of Ruth is about a young widow, named Ruth. Ruth was a foreigner, but she came to Israel to help Naomi. (Naomi was Ruth's husband's mother.) Ruth chose to believe and serve the true God. Naomi and Ruth were very poor, but Ruth could collect any grain that remained after the harvest. This was God's law, and one man who respected this law was called Boaz. So Ruth came to Boaz's field to collect grain. Boaz saw Ruth and he loved her. He agreed to pay her family's debts, so that he could marry Ruth. Ruth was just a poor foreigner, but her family became Israel's royal family. Both King David and Jesus belonged to this family.

**Ruth 1:16** Whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.

## 1 & 2 Samuel

1 & 2 Samuel tell the story of the first two kings of Israel. For many centuries Israel had no kings. The people did whatever they wanted to do. But God appointed special judges to lead the people.

The last of these special judges was Samuel (1 Samuel 7:15) who was also a prophet. When Samuel was old the people asked Samuel to appoint a king. God told Samuel to appoint Saul. Saul sometimes obeyed God, and sometimes not.

God chose David to be king instead of Saul. David trusted and loved God and was a good king.

**1 Samuel 12:23** Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way.

## 1 & 2 Kings

The Books of Kings continue the story that began in the Books of Samuel. It tells of King Solomon, the son of King David. He was a wise king and became rich. He built a temple in Jerusalem. Many other kings followed after him. When the kings obeyed God, the people were at peace. When the kings did not obey God, but served other gods, bad things happened. God sent the prophet Elijah to tell people God's words. He told the people to serve God again, and God worked miracles through him. 2 Kings begins with the end of the story of Elijah. God did not allow Elijah to die. Instead, Elijah went up to heaven. Elijah's companion, Elisha, saw Elijah rise to heaven in a vehicle of fire (2 Kings 2).

Elisha himself became a great prophet. God gave Elisha power to do twice the number of miracles as Elijah. When King Hezekiah was in trouble, he prayed to God. The prophet Isaiah talked with him, and God helped and healed Hezekiah. Josiah was just a boy when he became king. He was a good king who served God and encouraged the people to trust God. He helped to repair the temple. When the kings served God, God helped them. But when the kings did evil things, God opposed them. God sent his servants, the prophets, to warn the kings. But when the kings refused to obey the prophets, God punished their nations.

**1 Kings 10:8-9a** Happy are thy men, happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and that hear thy wisdom. Blessed be the Lord thy God, which delighted in thee.

**2 Kings 20:5b** Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee.



## Activity

\*When people remember God's Word and choose to do it, then He can do wonderful things for them. It is so much easier for us nowadays to be reminded of things, with all the new inventions that those in the past didn't have. (Printing press, paper & pens, audios, computers, etc.) What verse would you like to keep in mind and follow more faithfully? How would you like to remind yourself of it? (Example: Write it out and post it. Or put it to a tune and sing it often. Mark with a book mark in your Bible, and place it somewhere you can easily refer to it, etc.)



## Topic Treasures

### — God's Forgiveness

## Study Fun

Draw: A heart near the interesting words or phrases that help to describe the forgiveness, love and acceptance of the Lord.

✓ Checkmark: Beside all the times the words "forgive" or "forgiveness", "mercy" and "pardon" are mentioned.

Write: And learn to spell some of the long words in these verses, like "lovingkindness", "faithfulness", "transgressions", and "compassion".

**Psalm 51:1** Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

**Psalm 86:5** For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee

**Psalm 43:25** I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

**Lamentations 3:22-23** It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

**Psalm 103:12** As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

**John 8:11b** And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.



**Luke 5:20** And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.

**Luke 7:47** Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much.

**Luke 23:34** Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.

**Luke 6:36-37** Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven.

**Matthew 6:14-15** For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

**Micah 7:18-19** Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

**Isaiah 43:25** I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

**Isaiah 44:22** I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee.



## Daily Diary

\*Look up the verse: Matthew 5:23-24. Is there someone who you need to apologize to? Is there someone who needs your forgiveness? Make note of it in your diary and plan to communicate with them, or pray for the Lord to help you to forgive.