

## **FOREMOTHER DEBORAH**

This activity is designed for our young daughters to learn about our foremother Rebekah, the wife of our forefather Isaac, the father of Jacob and Esau.

### **Lesson Objectives:**

At the end of the lesson, our young daughters will be able to answer the following questions about our foremother Rebekah:

1. Who was Rebekah?
2. Which type of children did she have?
3. What was her role in history?
4. What did she do for one of her sons, Jacob?
5. What did they learn about Rebekah that they can apply?

### **Teach:**

Rebekah was a married Israelite woman to Isaac. She had great respect for her husband Isaac even before she married him

Genesis 25:63 - 67

**[63]** And Isaac went out to meditate in the field at the eventide: and he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold, the camels *were* coming.

**[64]** And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she lighted off the camel.

**[65]** For she *had* said unto the servant, What man *is* this that walketh in the field to meet us? And the servant *had* said, It *is* my master: therefore she took a vail, and covered herself.

**[66]** And the servant told Isaac all things that he had done.

**[67]** And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's *death*.'

### **Genesis 25:20 - 21**

**[20]** And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah to wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padanaram, the sister to Laban the Syrian.

**[21]** And Isaac intreated the LORD for his wife, because she *was* barren: and the LORD was intreated of him, and Rebekah his wife conceived.

**Question:** What does it mean for a woman to be barren?

### **Genesis 25:22 - 24**

**[22]** And the children struggled together within her; and she said, *If it be so, why am I thus?* And she went to enquire of the LORD.

**[23]** And the LORD said unto her, Two nations *are* in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and *the one* people shall be stronger than *the other* people; and the elder shall serve the younger.

**[24]** And when her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, *there were* twins in her womb.

### **Questions:**

What do you think it means by there being two nations in the womb? What sort of babies were inside Rebekah's womb?

### **Genesis 25:25 - 26**

**[25]** And the first came out red, all over like an hairy garment; and they called his name Esau.

**[26]** And after that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau's heel; and his name was called Jacob: and Isaac was threescore years old when she bare them.

## **Questions:**

1. Which nation of people are red skinned?
2. Which nation of people is Jacob from?
3. How old was Isaac when his two sons were born?

As the fraternal twins grew the time for their father Isaac to die was coming up and it was time for him to give them blessings. Rebekah knew that her husband loved Isaac and loved Esau more and that he would give Esau the better blessing. Rebekah knowing the LORD's plan for Jacob, she had to devise a plan to ensure that Jacob got the blessing.

Genesis 27:1 - 5

**[1]** And it came to pass, that when Isaac was old, and his eyes were dim, so that he could not see, he called Esau his eldest son, and said unto him, My son: and he said unto him, Behold, *here am I*.

**[2]** And he said, Behold now, I am old, I know not the day of my death:

**[3]** Now therefore take, I pray thee, thy weapons, thy quiver and thy bow, and go out to the field, and take me *some* venison;

**[4]** And make me savoury meat, such as I love, and bring *it* to me, that I may eat; that my soul may bless thee before I die.

**[5]** And Rebekah heard when Isaac spake to Esau his son. And Esau went to the field to hunt *for* venison, *and* to bring *it*.

**[6]** And Rebekah spake unto Jacob her son, saying, Behold, I heard thy father speak unto Esau thy brother, saying,

**[7]** Bring me venison, and make me savoury meat, that I may eat, and bless thee before the LORD before my death.

**[8]** Now therefore, my son, obey my voice according to that which I command thee.

**[9]** Go now to the flock, and fetch me from thence two good kids of the goats; and I will make them savoury meat for thy father, such as he loveth:

**[10]** And thou shalt bring *it* to thy father, that he may eat, and that he may bless thee before his death.

**[11]** And Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, Behold, Esau my brother *is* a hairy man, and I *am* a smooth man:

### **Questions:**

1. What did Rebekah tell her son to do?

Rebekah then prepared her son, Jacob to receive his blessing from his father Isaac.

**[12]** My father peradventure will feel me, and I shall seem to him as a deceiver; and I shall bring a curse upon me, and not a blessing.

**[13]** And his mother said unto him, Upon me *be* thy curse, my son: only obey my voice, and go fetch me *them*.

**[14]** And he went, and fetched, and brought *them* to his mother: and his mother made savoury meat, such as his father loved.

**[15]** And Rebekah took goodly raiment of her eldest son Esau, which were with her in the house, and put them upon Jacob her younger son:

**[16]** And she put the skins of the kids of the goats upon his hands, and upon the smooth of his neck:

**[17]** And she gave the savoury meat and the bread, which she had prepared, into the hand of her son Jacob.

### **Questions:**

Why didn't Jacob want to perform what his mother told him to do?

**[20]** And Isaac said unto his son, How *is it* that thou hast found *it* so quickly, my son? And he said, Because the LORD thy God brought *it* to me.

**[21]** And Isaac said unto Jacob, Come near, I pray thee, that I may feel thee, my son, whether thou *be* my very son Esau or not.

**[22]** And Jacob went near unto Isaac his father; and he felt him, and said, The voice *is* Jacob's voice, but the hands *are* the hands of Esau.

**[23]** And he discerned him not, because his hands were hairy, as his brother Esau's hands: so he blessed him.

**[24]** And he said, *Art* thou my very son Esau? And he said, I *am*.

**[25]** And he said, Bring *it* near to me, and I will eat of my son's venison, that my soul may bless thee. And he brought *it* near to him, and he did eat: and he brought him wine, and he drank.

**[26]** And his father Isaac said unto him, Come near now, and kiss me, my son.

## **Questions**

1. What did Jacob have to do to try and act as if he is Esau to receive the blessing?
2. Did Isaac believe that it was Esau? What do you think was going through his mind when he wanted to give Esau the blessings?

When Jacob had received the blessing, he took of and

his brother Esau turned up with savoury meat that he knows his father loves. He went to receive the blessing but found out that his blessing was given to his brother Jacob.

### **Genesis 27:27 -**

**[27]** And he came near, and kissed him: and he smelled the smell of his raiment, and blessed him, and said, See, the smell of my son *is* as the smell of a field which the LORD hath blessed:

**[28]** Therefore God give thee of the dew of heaven, and the fatness of the earth, and plenty of corn and wine:

**[29]** Let people serve thee, and nations bow down to thee: be lord over thy brethren, and let thy mother's sons bow down to thee: cursed *be* every one that curseth thee, and blessed *be* he that blesseth thee.

**[30]** And it came to pass, as soon as Isaac had made an end of blessing Jacob, and Jacob was yet scarce gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, that Esau his brother came in from his hunting.

**[31]** And he also had made savoury meat, and brought it unto his father, and said unto his father, Let my father arise, and eat of his son's venison, that thy soul may bless me.

**[32]** And Isaac his father said unto him, Who *art* thou? And he said, I *am* thy son, thy firstborn Esau.



**[33]** And Isaac trembled very exceedingly, and said, Who? where *is* he that hath taken venison, and brought *it* me, and I have eaten of all before thou camest, and have blessed him? yea, *and* he shall be blessed.

**[34]** And when Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry, and said unto his father, Bless me, *even* me also, O my father.

**[35]** And he said, Thy brother came with subtilty, and hath taken away thy blessing.

**[36]** And he said, Is not he rightly named Jacob? for he hath supplanted me these two times: he took away my birthright; and, behold, now he hath taken away my blessing. And he said, Hast thou not reserved a blessing for me?

**[37]** And Isaac answered and said unto Esau, Behold, I have made him thy lord, and all his brethren have I given to him for servants; and with corn and wine have I sustained him: and what shall I do now unto thee, my son?

**[38]** And Esau said unto his father, Hast thou but one blessing, my father? bless me, *even* me also, O my father. And Esau lifted up his voice, and wept.

### **Questions:**

1. What do you think Esau meant about his brother supplanting him? (Definition of supplant: supersede and replace.) Explain: Jacob did not take away Jacob's birthright but he willingly gave it away for raw meat as explain in Genesis 25:29 - 34)
2. What did the actions of our foremother Rebekah do for Jacob and Esau?

Our foremother Rebekah played a very key role in bringing forth one of our forefathers and making sure that he got the blessing that we as a nation need! She knew that her lord loved Esau more and she had to persuade her other son Jacob to go and get the blessing as it would determine the destiny of the Israelites today. Jacob is the forefather of us Israelites and to us pertains the promises.

End of class.

**Question:** which scripture in the Bible speaks about

### **Closing and Review:**

1. Who was Rebekah?
2. Who was she the wife of?
3. Which type of children did she have?
4. What was her role written in the history we just went over?
5. What did you learn about Rebekah.

End of the class.