



FAITHFUL LIGHT CHURCH

Pastors: Dennis & Diane Gordon

Volume 3: From Prison to Praise #2 **BIRTH OF THE 12 SONS OF ISRAEL**

Genesis 29:32-Genesis 31:55



CHILDREN'S STORY: (See Page 15) **God Uses My Mistakes**

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

1st reader repeats scripture 2x with congregation.

Romans 8:28 *“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”*

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR ME

I DON'T ALWAYS CHOOSE THE WAY THAT I SHOULD
BUT GOD USES EVEN MY MISTAKES, FOR MY GOOD.

1. INTRODUCTION: God had brought Jacob to find a bride, and safety, in Haran with his uncle Laban's family. Laban had first cheated Jacob when after working 7 years to marry Rachel, he put Leah in the marriage tent in her place! Laban continues to deceive Jacob, changing his wages many times and making him grovel for food for his family. But Jacob continued to forgive Laban, and he obeyed God, working faithfully to keep his promise to Laban even when he was being treated so unfairly. This week we find that God always knows, He sees, and He cares about what is happening to those who love Him, and God is always a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Objects to Bring: 4 Baskets and 13 Baby Dolls; Pair of Men's Shoes.

2. JESUS CARES ABOUT OUR SORROWS.

Jacob hated Leah because Laban tricked him to marry her first but he loved Rachel. God saw that Leah was not loved, so He blessed her. God cares when you are sad, and He will bless you too!

(Place 4 baskets labeled: Leah, Bilhah, Zilpah & Rachel in center of room.)

Hebrews 2:16-18 “For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. ¹⁷ Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.”

Genesis 29:32 “And Leah conceived, and bare a son, and she called his name Reuben: for she said, Surely the LORD hath looked upon my affliction; now therefore my husband will love me.” *(Place 1st baby in Leah’s basket)*



Leah thought Jacob would love her more now, but he didn’t!

Genesis 29:33 “And she conceived again, and bare a son; and said, Because the LORD hath heard I was hated, he hath therefore given me this son also: and she called his name Simeon.” *(Place 2nd baby in Leah’s basket)*



Genesis 29:34-35 “And she conceived again, and bare a son; and said, Now this time will my husband be joined unto me, because I have born him three sons: therefore was his name called Levi. ³⁵ And she conceived again, and bare a son: and she said, Now will I praise the LORD: therefore she called his name Judah; and left bearing.” *(Place 3rd and 4th babies in basket Leah’s basket)*



The births of Levi and Judah did not bring love from Jacob, but God is fair, and He will reward those who love Him at His coming.

Revelation 12:11-12 “And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. ¹³ I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.”

3. RACHEL AND LEAH BEGAN A COMPETITION, USING THEIR MAIDS, TO HAVE MORE SONS FOR JACOB.

Genesis 30:1-24 “And when Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and said unto Jacob, Give me children, or else I die. ² And Jacob's anger was kindled against Rachel: and he said, Am I in God's stead, who hath withheld from thee the fruit of the womb? ³

Rachel was so jealous of her sister she gave her maid Bilhah to be Jacob's wife and Bilhah gave birth to **Dan** and **Naptali** while laying in Rachel's lap, so her sons would belong to Rachel!
(Place 5th and 6th babies in Bilhah's basket)



Genesis 30:3-8 “And she said, Behold my maid Bilhah, go in unto her; and she shall bear upon my knees, that I may also have children by her...and Bilhah conceived, and bare Jacob a son. ⁶ And Rachel said, God hath judged me, and hath also heard my voice, and hath given me a son: therefore called she his name **Dan**. ⁷ And Bilhah Rachel's maid conceived again, and bare Jacob a second son. ⁸ And Rachel...called his name **Naphtali**.”



Leah had stopped having babies, so she also gave her maid to be Jacob's wife, and Zilpah gave birth to two sons for Leah.
(Place 7th and 8th babies in Zilpah's basket)

Genesis 30:9-13 “When Leah saw that she had left bearing, ... Leah's maid bare Jacob a son. ¹¹ And Leah ...called his name **Gad**. ¹² And Zilpah Leah's maid bare Jacob a second son...and she called his name **Asher**.”



It is comforting to know that the people of God in Bible times were not any more perfect than we are, and God will work our mistakes together for our good because He has a purpose!

Romans 8:28 “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”

4. LEAH'S SON REUBEN FINDS MANDRAKE ROOTS KNOWN TO HELP WOMEN WITH FERTILITY.

Genesis 30:14-15 “And Reuben went in the days of wheat harvest, and found mandrakes in the field, and brought them unto his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, Give me, I pray thee, of thy son's mandrakes. ¹⁵ And she said unto her, Is it a small matter that thou hast taken my husband? and wouldest thou take away my son's mandrakes also? And Rachel said, Therefore he shall lie with thee to night for thy son's mandrakes.

MANDRAKES Its forked root, supposed to resemble the human form, was said to provide soothing sleep, heal wounds, induce love, and facilitate pregnancy.
Mirriam-Webster.com



So Leah was blessed with three more babies, two more sons and a little girl! (*Place 9th, 10th and 11th babies in Leah's basket*)

Genesis 30:16-21 “And Jacob came out of the field in the evening, and Leah went out to meet him, and said, Thou must come in unto me; for surely I have hired thee with my son's mandrakes. ...¹⁷ And God hearkened unto Leah, and she conceived, and bare Jacob the fifth son. ¹⁸ And Leah said, God hath given me my hire, because I have given my maiden to my husband: and she called his name **Issachar**. ¹⁹ And Leah conceived again, and bare Jacob the sixth son. ²⁰ And she called his name **Zebulun**. ²¹ And afterwards she bare a daughter, and called her name **Dinah**.



Rachel finally had a sweet little boy of her own, and a prophecy that she would also give birth to another son, **Benjamin!** (*Put 12th & 13th babies in Rachel's basket*)



Genesis 30:22-24 “And God remembered Rachel, and God hearkened to her, and opened her womb. ²³ And she conceived, and bare a son; and said, God hath taken away my reproach: ²⁴ And she called his name **Joseph**; and said, The LORD shall add to me another son.”



5. AFTER 14 YEARS, RACHEL GIVES BIRTH TO HIS 12TH SON, BUT LABAN WILL NOT LET JACOB GO.

These 12 sons became the nation of Israel through whom the Messiah, our Lord Jesus Christ, the seed of Abraham was born.

Leah's Sons and Daughter:



Reuben



Simeon



Levi



Judah



Issachar



Zebulun



Dinah

Bilhah's Sons:



Dan



Naphtali

Zilpah's Sons:



Gad



Asher

Rachel's Sons:



Joseph



Benjamin

After Joseph was born, Jacob asked Laban to release his family to go with him back home to his country. Jacob had worked 14 years for Leah and Rachel, and God had increased Laban's wealth, yet Laban would not give Jacob fair wages to support his family

Genesis 30:25-30 "And it came to pass, when Rachel had born Joseph, that Jacob said unto Laban, Send me away, that I may go unto mine own place, and to my country. ²⁶ Give me my wives and my children, for whom I have served thee, and let me go... ²⁷ And Laban said unto him.... I have learned by experience that the LORD hath blessed me for thy sake. ²⁸ And he said, Appoint me thy wages, and I will give it. ²⁹ He said unto him, Thou knowest how I have served thee...and it is now increased unto a multitude; and the LORD hath blessed thee since my coming: now when shall I provide for mine own house also?"

Jacob was deceitful with his brother Esau and his father, and he was now patiently bearing 14 years of unfair deceitfulness from his father-in-law. Have you noticed that whenever we need to learn a lesson, God will bring an obnoxious person into our lives with the same sin, so we can see the ugliness of our own sin? God loves us so much He uses all things for our good, and He always has a plan!

6. LABAN AGREES TO JACOB'S WAGES.

***Genesis 30:31-34** “And he said, What shall I give thee? And Jacob said, Thou shalt not give me any thing: if thou wilt do this thing for me,³² I will pass through all thy flock to day, removing from thence all the speckled and spotted cattle, and all the brown cattle among the sheep, and the spotted and speckled among the goats: and of such shall be my hire³⁴ And Laban said, Behold, I would it might be according to thy word.”*



Laban gladly agreed to Jacob's proposal because it was to his advantage to give Jacob the livestock he did not want because the wool of spotted sheep cannot be sold for a profit so it is worthless. There would be no question which ones were Jacob's.

***Genesis 31:10-12** “And it came to pass at the time that the cattle conceived, that I lifted up mine eyes, and saw in a dream, and, behold, the rams which leaped upon the cattle were ringstraked, speckled, and grisled.¹¹ And the angel of God spake unto me in a dream, saying, Jacob: ... Lift up now thine eyes, and see, all the rams which leap upon the cattle are ringstraked, speckled, and grisled: for I have seen all that Laban doeth unto thee.”*

God saw all that Laban had done to Jacob, and God is just. Jacob did not know of what effect the bark of various trees would have on the color pattern of livestock but God did, and Jacob obeyed what God instructed him to do in his dream.

***Deuteronomy 29:29** “The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.”*

It was God's plan to increase Jacob's flocks, and it was God who showed Jacob how to increase his flocks, and prosper him greatly. Trust God patiently like Jacob and He will bless you too!

7. JACOB PULLS THE SPECKLED AND SPOTTED SHEEP FOR HIS WAGES, AND GOD INCREASES HIS FLOCK.

Genesis 30:35-36 “And he removed that day the he goats that were ringstraked and spotted, and all the she goats that were speckled and spotted, and every one that had some white in it, and all the brown among the sheep, and gave them into the hand of his sons. ³⁶And he set three days' journey betwixt himself and Jacob: and Jacob fed the rest of Laban's flocks.”

Now we read something strange in the scriptures that is difficult to understand: Jacob peels the bark from branches of trees to form streaks and spots and places the branches in the watering troughs.

Genesis 30:37-43 “And Jacob took him rods of green poplar, and of the hazel and chestnut tree; and pilled white strakes in them, ³⁸And he set the rods which he had pilled before the flocks in the gutters in the watering troughs when the



flocks came to drink, that they should conceive when they came to drink. ³⁹And the flocks conceived before the rods, and brought forth cattle ringstraked, speckled, and spotted.... ⁴³And the man increased exceedingly, and had much cattle, and maidservants...”

Though there is evidence that exposure to strong fumes from decaying vegetation can affect DNA causing a change in coloring, that is not likely here, because the branches were only placed in the troughs briefly while certain of the flocks were drinking, and then removed for others to drink. This passage more likely shows the Biblical pattern of pairing focused prayer with a physical action to picture what God has promised; like when Moses raised his arms until a battle was won, or when the Israelites made models of their tumors to send away on a cart and God healed them. It was not the physical action, but showing one's faith by the action, that God will do what He promised! Jacob showed that he believed God would increase his flock of streaked and spotted sheep by placing the branches in the water, and God blessed Jacob's faith in Him!

8. JACOB IS FAITHFUL & GOD SHOWS HIM HIS PLAN.

Genesis 31:1-2 “**And he heard the words of Laban’s sons, saying, Jacob hath taken away all that was our father’s; and of that which was our father’s hath he gotten all this glory. ² And Jacob beheld the countenance of Laban, and, behold, it was not toward him as before.**”

When you overhear someone saying bad things about you, if you will pray, and then do what God tells you, He will rescue you.

Psalms 46:10 “**Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.**”

Genesis 31:3-9 “**And the LORD said unto Jacob, Return unto the land of thy fathers, and to thy kindred; and I will be with thee. ⁴ And Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to the field unto his flock, ⁵ and said unto them, I see your father’s countenance, that it is not toward me as before; but the God of my father hath been with me. ⁶ And ye know that with all my power I have served your father. ⁷ And your father hath deceived me, and changed my wages ten times; but God suffered him not to hurt me. ⁸ If he said thus, The speckled shall be thy wages; then all the cattle bare speckled: and if he said thus, The ringstraked shall be thy hire; then bare all the cattle ringstraked. ⁹ Thus God hath taken away the cattle of your father, and given them to me.**”



God told Jacob to take his family and return to the land of his fathers, so he consulted with Rachel and Leah, and they agreed that Jacob should do what God told him and leave immediately!

Genesis 31:13-16 “**I am the God of Beth-el, where thou anointedst the pillar, and where thou vowedst a vow unto me: now arise, get thee out from this land, and return unto the land of thy kindred. ¹⁴ And Rachel and Leah answered and said unto him... he hath sold us, and hath quite devoured also our money. ¹⁶ For all the riches which God hath taken from our father, that is ours and our children’s: now then, whatsoever God hath said unto thee, do.**”

9. GOD ORDERS OUR STEPS WHEN WE TRUST IN HIM.

Rachel was concerned that she was being cheated out of her inheritance, so while Jacob was packing up all their possessions, Rachel stole her father's very costly idols without him knowing, and they fled on camels across the river with his flocks and herds.



Genesis 31:17-21 "Then Jacob rose up, and set his sons and his wives upon camels; ¹⁸ and he carried away all his cattle, and all his goods which he had gotten.... ¹⁹ And Laban went to shear his sheep: and Rachel had stolen the images that were her father's... ²¹ So he fled with all that he had; and he rose up, and passed over the river, and set his face toward the mount Gilead."

Jacob learned patience by enduring those 20 long years, but in the midst of testing, God used Jacob to be the father of the nation of Israel through whom God's only begotten Son would be born!

James 1:12 "Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him."

Like Jacob, when we go through troubles and cannot see the way ahead, God will bring us through with victory when we walk with Him in obedience, one step at a time!

OBJECT LESSON: Pair of Large Men's Shoes

(Ask a child to put on the shoes labeled "Believe" and "Obey")

How did Jacob know how to choose the right way?

*Well, he just took one step to **Believe** with one foot, and then he took a step to **Obey** with his other foot. When you believe and obey, you can be sure that God will direct your steps! Your steps may feel a little awkward and slow at first, but as you trust and obey, God will show you the right way to go, just like He showed Jacob!*



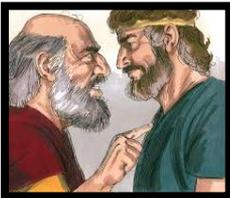
Psalms 37:23-24 "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord; and He delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand."

10. LABAN CHASES JACOB AND THEY MAKE PEACE.

Genesis 31:22-33 *“And it was told Laban on the third day that Jacob was fled. ²³ ... and pursued after him seven days’ journey; and they overtook him in the mount Gilead²⁷ Wherefore didst thou flee away secretly, and steal away from me; and didst not tell me, that I might have sent thee away with mirth, and with songs, with tabret, and with harp?... ³⁰ And now, though thou wouldest needs be gone...yet why hast thou stolen my gods? ³¹ Jacob answered and said to Laban, Because I was afraid: for I said, Peradventure thou wouldest take by force thy daughters from me. ³² With whomsoever thou findest thy gods, let him not live...”*



Laban acted wounded as though he had no clue why Jacob would leave! When you try to make peace with a lying unfair person, they will spin the story, to make themselves the wounded party! It was true that Laban’s household gods had been stolen, by Rachel, but Jacob was so sure that no one in his family would steal, he told Laban to search the camp and kill whoever stole the gold idols!



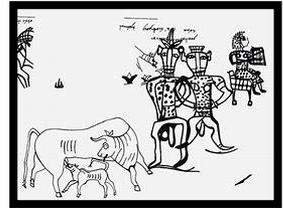
Genesis 31:34-35 *“Now Rachel had taken the images, and put them in the camel’s furniture, and sat upon them. And Laban searched all the tent, but found them not...³⁷ And Jacob was wroth, and chode with Laban: and Jacob answered and said to Laban, What is my trespass? what is my sin, that thou hast so hotly pursued after me?...⁴² Except the God of my father, the God of Abraham, and the fear of Isaac, had been with me, surely thou had sent me away now empty. God hath seen mine affliction⁴³ And Laban answered and said unto Jacob, These daughters are my daughters, and these children are my children...and all that thou seest is mine...”*

Why would Laban, the son of Nahor, who worshipped the same God as Jacob, have idols? Archeology supports the Genesis account that Israelites worshiped the idols Asherah, “the Queen of Heaven”, and Yahweh, a guardian idol. The Yahweh idol of Egypt, also called Molech, was not the Almighty God of Heaven!

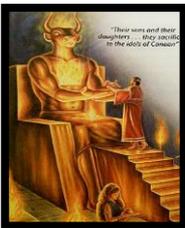
11. ARCHEOLOGY DOCUMENTS the IDOLS OF ISRAEL.



“In 1967, Raphael Patai was the first historian to mention that the ancient Israelites worshiped both Yahweh and Asherah. The theory has gained new prominence due to research by Francesca Stavrakopoulou, who began her work at Oxford and is now a senior lecturer in the dept. of Theology and Religion at the University of Exeter....Thousands of Asherah figurines have been dug up by archeologists in Israel: “Among the many objects discovered at Kuntillet Ajrud were two large, splintered, pithol or storage jars. Each pithos contained drawings in red and black ink accompanied by religious inscriptions written in Hebrew, which scholars have translated with reasonable consistency. Pithos A seems to be a dedicatory inscription and reads, in Part: “I /bless you by Yahweh, our guardian, and by his Asherah.” A second pithos is nearly identical, including: “Amaryau says: Say to my lord X: I bless you by Yahweh (our guardian), and by his Asherah.” www.wiki.answers.com



Psalm 106:34-38 “They did not destroy the nations, concerning whom the LORD commanded them: ³⁵ but were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works. ³⁶ And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them. ³⁷ Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils, ³⁸ and shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters.”



“Moloch was a Canaanite deity associated with human sacrifices. Mainly, child sacrifices. A bronze statue with the head of an ox and body of a man was erected, and infants would be placed in it to burn. ... In Egypt he was known as the Son of the Nile or Ra...J. P. Timmons, *Mysterious Secrets of the Dark Kingdom* p. 114 (1991). The Canaanites originated the practices of demon-worship, occult rites, child sacrifice and cannibalism...They sacrificed children to Molech (a Semitic god). Mike Warnke, *Schemes of Satan* p. 29 (1991). They practiced their horrible rites in "groves" or "shrines" where they could "murder children without being seen and punished by the descendents of Shem" Eustace Mullins, *Curse of Canaan*, p. 24

12. LABAN'S IDOLS WERE CARRIED FROM BABYLON.

When Moses came down from Mt. Sinai, he found the Israelites had made a replica of the same golden calf they had worshipped in Egypt, the same idol to whom they had sacrificed their children!

Ancient Israel was known to worship the idols, Yahweh (Yahreah) and Asherah (Ishtar) the Queen of Heaven alongside God. We remember from the Bible Journeys Called & Chosen series, that these pagan idols come from the mystery religion of Babylon. Noah's son Cush and his wife Semiramis, had a son named Nimrod who became king of Sumeria. After Cush was killed, Nimrod married his own mother, and declared himself to be God. The mystery religion of Babylon was developed by Semiramis & her son Nimrod. Nimrod fathered a son, Tammuz with his mother, and built the Tower of Babel, then he was killed by Shem for his sins against the God of heaven.



Semiramis & Tammuz

“Semiramis declared herself to be Queen of Heaven and developed the mystery religion of Babylon. Semiramis claimed that she was immaculately conceived by the Baal moon god, Yahreah (also spelled Yahweh)... Semiramis was worshipped as "Ishtar" pronounced "Easter". Ishtar is spelled Ashtoreth in scripture, and Asherah, and in the King James Bible is written “Easter”. www.wiki.answers.com

Jeremiah 7:18 *“The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger.”*

We can be positive that God's name Ehyeh-Asher-Ehyeh/Yeshua, was not known before He spoke His name to Moses, because God told Moses that no one had known Him by His Name before! Yet God's Name that He told Moses was not before spoken, appears in Genesis chapters 15, 22, 24 and 27, with also names of cities that did not yet exist. The simple reason is that Moses wrote these accounts after the Exodus when the Name of God was known.

13. THE MEN MAKE A COVENANT AND GO IN PEACE.

A big part of Laban's anger was that his idols had been stolen! The men agreed to make a covenant, so they piled up a heap of stones to offer a sacrifice to God, as a witness between them.

Genesis 31:44-55 "Now therefore come thou, let us make a covenant, I and thou; and let it be for a witness between me and thee...⁴⁸ And Laban said, This heap is a witness between me and thee this day. *Therefore was the name of it called Galeed;⁴⁹ and Mizpah; for he said, The LORD watch between me and thee, when we are absent one from another...*⁵⁴ *Then Jacob offered sacrifice upon the mount,*...⁵⁵ And early in the morning Laban rose up, and kissed his sons and his daughters, and blessed them: and Laban departed, and returned unto his place."



Neither one of these men had changed his position, they simply agreed before God to disagree, and let it go. When you trust Jesus, He will change your heart, and the heart of your enemies!

Proverbs 16:7 "When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him."

Philippians 3:13-14 "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, *forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,*¹⁴ *I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*"

We are not going to understand everything. God wants us to leave behind our past hurts and all the unfair things that have happened to us, to let them go and press forward! Trust God to fix them and move on, reaching higher, to attain the goal that He will show you!

Isaiah 30:21 "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, *This is the way, walk ye in it,* when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."

14. GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOU AND ME

Hebrews 4:14-16 “Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. ¹⁵ For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ **Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.**”

Jacob went boldly to God in his time of need. Jesus gave Jacob mercy for his sin, wisdom to know how to increase his flocks so there would be enough to support his family, and changed the heart of Jacob's enemy to be at peace with him! God is an ever-present help for our needs, and Jesus will do the same for you. We have much to gain from studying and learning to follow God's ways!



1. When life is unfair, we can know that God is always fair.
2. I must love everyone the same because Jesus loves me.
3. When I love Jesus, if I make mistakes God will work everything together for His purpose and for my good.
4. God reveals His secrets to us when we love Him.
5. If others are mean to me I will be still and let God be God.
6. It is not running away from your troubles, when you move because God says to move.
7. We should search our hearts for our own sin before we claim we have none.
8. We are not going to understand everything.
9. When others hurt me, I need to trust God, and let it go.
10. We must forgive ourselves, leave behind our failures and move forward with God who will lead us to our future!

Our dear Father, I pray forgiveness for the foolishness of my ways, thank you for saving and cleansing me from all sin. Help me to more fully understand your ways and learn to trust you. Lord Jesus, help me to forgive others because you have forgiven me, and help me to forgive myself like Jacob did, and leave my mistakes behind so I can move forward in the wonderful future you have planned ahead. In Jesus name, Amen

15. CHILDREN’S STORY: God Uses My Mistakes for Good

Conner was a good boy and happy that he got to go to a Christian school because he loved Jesus with all his heart. Conner’s parents sacrificed buying things they needed for themselves so they could pay for him to go there, and he was very thankful. Conner’s class was raising money for a trip to see the amazing Creation Museum! Conner was getting so excited as the day of the trip came near, and the whole class was working extra hard to sell enough cookies to get the last of the money they needed.



The last day came to turn in their money, and Conner was sad as he walked into the classroom, because he did not sell all his cookies. There was a lot of money in stacks on the teacher’s desk but she was talking to a teacher across the hall. Not one person was in the room except for Conner. He saw the money, quickly took what he needed and sat in his desk before the teacher came back and the other kids came in from the playground. The bell rang and the kids turned in their cookie money. The teacher said she was very proud of them all for their hard work. Conner went home that day, with a note telling his parents that he was not allowed to go with the class on their trip because he had stolen money, and the money he raised would be applied to his school account. His teacher was watching him the whole time! Conner was so sorry for what he had done.

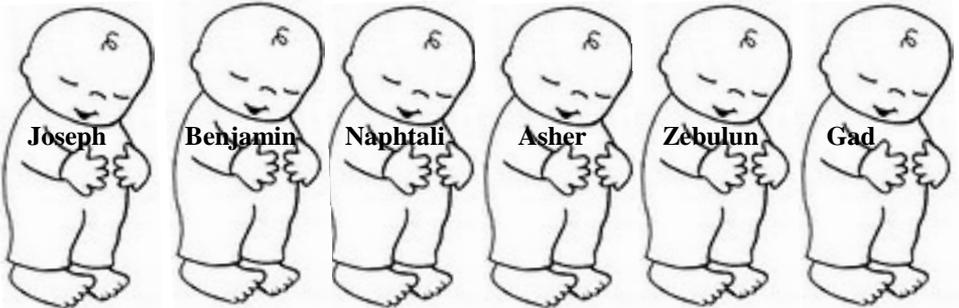
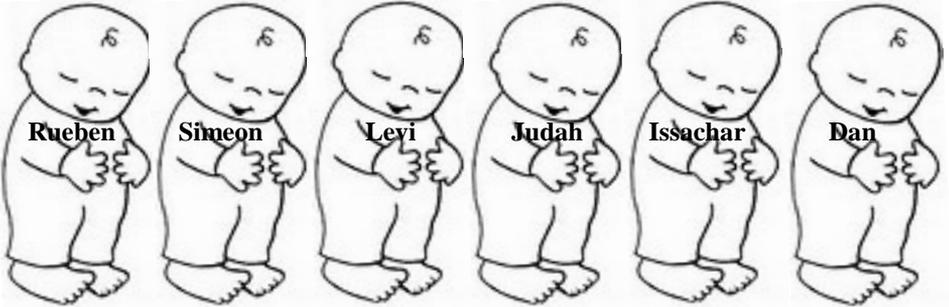
Conner’s parents had been asked to be chaperones for the trip, so they decided Conner would have to stay with his uncle Larry on his farm for the week they would be away. Uncle Larry made Conner work hard every day before and after school for the whole week, picking fruit and packing boxes, and he was so tired he went to bed early each night. At the end of the week Conner was so surprised when his parents arrived to pick him up, and uncle Larry gave him his wages for the week, \$200.00!

Being gone for a week, Conner knew his parents were worried about how they would have enough money to pay his tuition that month, and suddenly Conner knew just what to do with his \$200!

16. GOSPEL CRAFT:

Directions:

1. Enlarge to 8 ½ x 11" copied onto Card Stock,
2. Color babies and cut out.
3. Copy or water color the basket a light brown and cut out.
4. Glue basket to the front side of a greeting card envelope.
5. Punch holes in the two top corners of the envelope.
6. Attach a fuzzy stick handle through holes and twist to secure.
7. Put babies inside the basket and tell the story of God blessing Jacob!



GOD'S PURPOSE FOR ME

**I DON'T ALWAYS CHOOSE THE WAY THAT I SHOULD
BUT GOD USES EVEN MY MISTAKES, FOR MY GOOD.**

Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

**GOD BLESSED JACOB WITH 12 SONS
and a GIRL!**



Faithful Light Church
Bible Journeys, From Prayer to Praise #2
God Teaches Jacob Patience