

Beautiful BIBLE TREASURES For Children

Lesson 18

Level A—Little Bible Treasures:

Isaac and the Wells

Level B—Children's Bible Treasures:

Isaac and the Wells

Level C— Story Time with Jesus:

Isaac and the Wells

Level D— What Does it Actually Say?:

Isaac and the Wells

**Level E— Bible Bits: Giving / Topic Treasures—
Forgiveness and Tolerance**

Isaac and the Wells

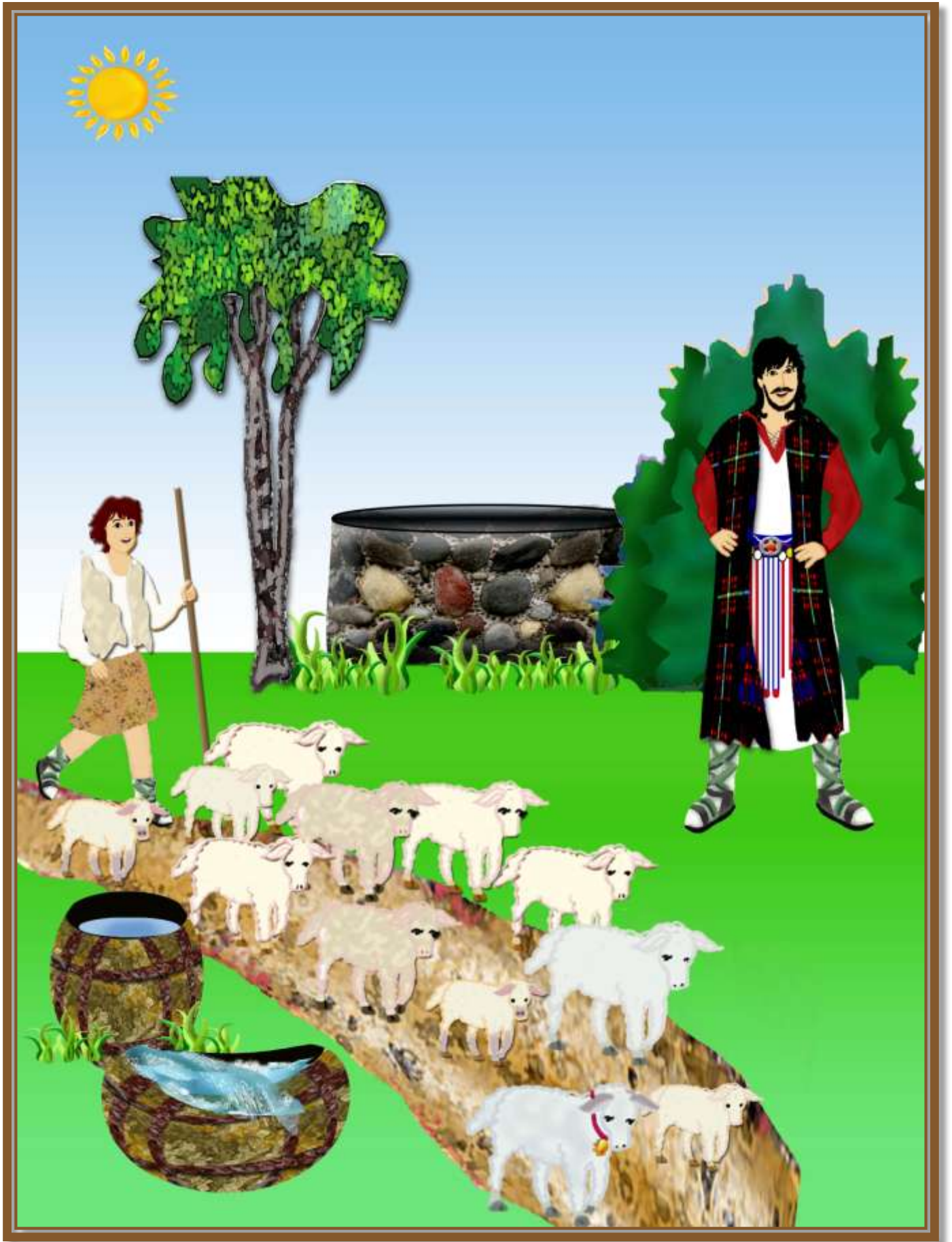
Did you ever have someone take something that you were using? Did it make you sad or upset?

Isaac had learned to be patient and act kindly, even when people took away something that he and his team really needed—a well for drawing water.

Isaac let others have his own well, and he moved and worked hard to dig another one. God provided more water for Isaac and his team and all their animals.

Soon those that weren't very nice to him said they were sorry, and became friends.

It was a good idea to act kindly—because in the end Isaac got more friends!



Isaac and the Wells

Isaac was Abraham's special son, and he learned from his father the best way to live—showing love and kindness, listening to God and obeying Him, and having patience to sometimes wait a long time for the best things to come.

One time he was very patient, and showed others the best way to be. A deep hole needed to be dug to make a well to get water out of the ground. There were no other streams or rivers or lakes in that area. Isaac's team needed water for their families and animals.

Then some grabby, unkind men decided they wanted to be the only ones using Isaac's well. Oh dear! That must have been very difficult for Isaac and his family and everyone they travelled with. They'd worked so hard to dig it, and they really needed the water. Isaac decided to be patient and gentle. He let the other men have the well, and he and his team moved on and dug another one, and God provided plenty of water for them.

Because Isaac made the right choices, and did what God wanted him to do, God blessed him with much more than those selfish people had. Soon the king of that country was sorry that they hadn't been nice to Isaac. He apologised and promised to be friends. He could tell that God was helping Isaac, and he wanted to be on the right side, too—on the side of those that followed God's way and were blessed as a result.



Activity

*Each hold a fresh glass of water, and after taking each sip, stop to say something that water helps us be able to do - things you are thankful to have water for!

Isaac and the Wells

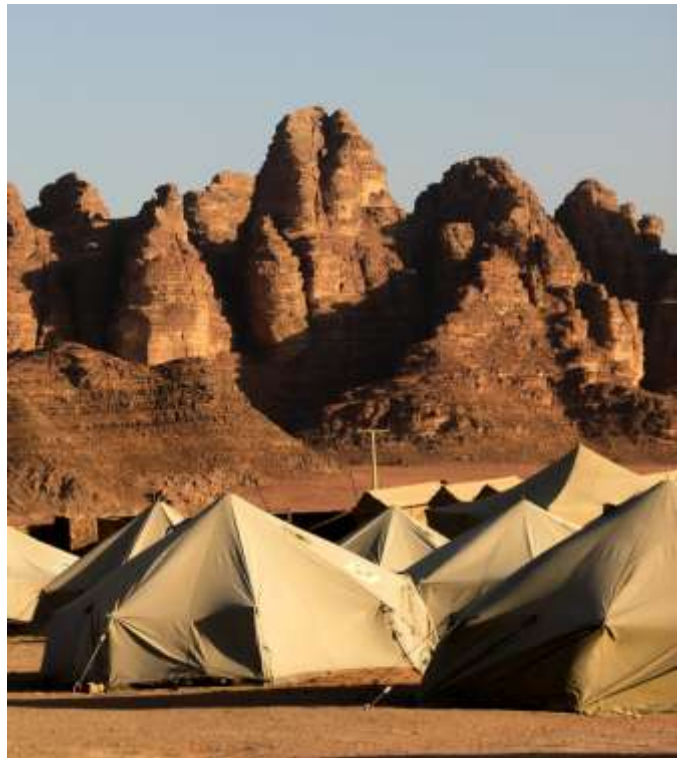


Isaac had learned many things both from his father Abraham, and also from his times alone with the Lord. He'd learned a lot about faith and patience. One particular event that's recorded about his life shows how this helped him.

Water was hard to find at times, and to get it often a deep well needed to be dug. This was hard work, and took a long time. There were no big building tools and machines to help make it fast and easy. So by the time a well was dug, and contained plenty of water for their big team to use, it was a great accomplishment and very helpful. Not only helpful, but it was essential. They needed it daily for drinking, for washing, for their animals, and so many other things.

However, others in the area needed and wanted water too. But there were those that didn't know and love God and who just wanted things to be theirs. When they saw Isaac and his team's well, they didn't say "Ah, there's water around here, let's dig a well too!" But rather, "That well is useful to us, let's take Isaac's well!" And they did.

They said that they were the only ones that could use it, and would push away any of Isaac's team who tried to use it.



So what did Isaac do? He moved. He moved to a new place and dug another well. But can you believe it?! What do you suppose happened next? Those greedy guys came and took over the next well too! So what did Isaac do? Did he say, "That's enough of being gentle and peaceful!" and try to be pushy to keep his hard-worked for well? No. He moved again.

He was probably feeling rather discouraged. But for the third time they dug a well. And this time no one took it, and they used it till it was time to move again.

You never know who is watching you when you are trying to behave well and act kindly. So something wonderful then happened. Isaac's team moved again, and when they were in the middle of trying to dig another well to use in their new place a visitor came.

There was a king from an area nearby, who hadn't wanted Isaac to live in his country. But he noticed how Isaac and his team had behaved, and also saw how God had blessed him with much as a result of his obedience. The king knew that God was with Isaac, and realised that he wanted to be friends with Isaac and his team. He saw they were good people and that God gave them all they needed, and took care of them because they followed God's way.

Isaac was surprised. "I thought you didn't like us?" he wondered. But the king said he wanted to change. They had a feast and promised to be friends and help each other. That was the first miracle. Then right when Isaac forgave the



king and his people—all those ones who had taken away their wells before—and after Isaac and the king promised to be kind to one another, a man came and told Isaac some great news!

The new well they were just digging was complete, as there was a spring of fresh water in it now! Great! Things were working out wonderfully! It took time and patience, and trying again and again, and not getting angry, and then forgiving others.

It worked out far better in the end for Isaac and his team, when doing it the kind and patient way—even though it seemed to take a while to see the good results. They had a place to stay, and friends who would be there for them, and lots of water!

Isaac had learned to hear from God, too, just like his father Abraham had. God told him where to go and where not to go, and as he obeyed things went well. Isaac and his team not only had all that they needed, but more than most others around. It didn't happen all in the first day, but after years of patience and following God's voice and doing what He said to do, day by day, month after month, year by year, they saw how blessed and cared for they all were.

Let's Talk About It

*What do you think is often your first and natural reaction when someone takes something that belongs to you?

*What might have happened if Isaac and his team had acted differently rather than with patience and faith?

Activity

*Cut out a heart-shaped piece of paper. Write or draw in it the answers to this question: What did Isaac have in his heart and mind to help him act in such ways—ways that helped things work out for good in the end?

(Ideas: faith, kindness, prayer, trust in God, peace, wisdom, patience, etc.)

Isaac and the Wells



Connect and Communicate

*Imagine you have a day with Jesus when He was on earth. You get to climb a mountain with Him, and listen to His words without a big crowd around. What would you like to ask Him?

Study Fun

Discover: All the ways it tells of God being near and taking care of Isaac and his team, and speaking to him.

Underline: All the times it talks about wells being dug.

Define: Envied, strove, betwixt.

Genesis

26:12 Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the Lord blessed him.

26:13 And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great:

26:14 For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants: and the Philistines envied him.

26:16 And Abimelech said unto Isaac, Go from us; for thou art much mightier than we.

26:17 And Isaac departed thence, and pitched his tent in the valley of *Gerar*, and dwelt there.

26:19 And Isaac's servants digged in the valley, and found there a well of springing water.

26:20 And the herdmen of *Gerar* did strive with Isaac's herdmen, saying, The water is ours: and he called the name of the well *Esek*; because they strove with him.

26:21 And they digged another well, and strove for that also: and he called the name of it *Sitnah*.

26:22 And he removed from thence, and digged another well; and for that they strove not: and he called the name of it *Rehoboth*; and he said, For now the Lord hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.

26:23 And he went up from thence to *Beersheba*.

26:24 And the Lord appeared unto him the same night, and said, I am the God of Abraham thy father: fear not, for I am with thee, and will bless thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham's sake.



26:25 And he builded an altar there, and called upon the name of the Lord, and pitched his tent there: and there Isaac's servants digged a well.

26:26 Then *Abimelech* went to him from *Gerar*, and *Ahuzzath* one of his friends, and *Phichol* the chief captain of his army.

26:27 And Isaac said unto them, Wherefore come ye to me, seeing ye hate me, and have sent me away from you?

26:28 And they said, We saw certainly that the Lord was with thee: and we said, Let there be now an oath betwixt us, even betwixt us and thee, and let us make a covenant with thee;

26:29 That thou wilt do us no hurt, as we have not touched thee, and as we have done unto thee nothing but good, and have sent thee away in peace: thou art now the blessed of the Lord.

26:30 And he made them a feast, and they did eat and drink.

26:31 And they rose up betimes in the morning, and sware one to another: and Isaac sent them away, and they departed from him in peace.

26:32 And it came to pass the same day, that Isaac's servants came, and told him concerning the well which they had digged, and said unto him, We have found water.

26:33 And he called it Shebah: therefore the name of the city is Beersheba unto this day.



Activity

*Learn about wells and how they work. Look at pictures of wells. Do people still use wells today? In what kinds of situations or countries would they be most needed? What might a modern day well in some countries look like or have? (Electric pump, etc.)

Fountain of Faith

Joshua 23:14b

And ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that 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.



John 15:7

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.



Giving

Prayer

Matthew 7:7, 8 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

*Choose 10 things you want to regularly remember to commit to the Lord in prayer. Write them on 10 small pieces of paper and place them around the house in easy-to-notice places. When you see them throughout the day, say a prayer as you carry on with whatever you are doing.

Luke 6:38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Matthew 5:42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

Acts 20:35b It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Matthew 10:8b Freely ye have received, freely give.

Proverbs 28:27a He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack.

Deuteronomy 16:17 Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which he hath given thee.

2 Corinthians 9:7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

Luke 10:35b Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.

Activity

*Choose as many of the above verses as you would like (can do all of them if you want to) and write them on a piece of paper or notebook. Cut and glue pictures from magazines, brochures, etc., that best illustrate the whole verse or a part.

Examples:

Luke 6:38: Find pictures of a measuring tape or rod; pictures of a bucket of water or a bottle running over.

2 Corinthians 9:7: Find a heart to cut and glue and/or a picture of a sad face and happy face.



Topic Treasures

— Forgiveness and Tolerance

Study Fun

Discover: What is 70x7? What process does silver go through to be purified?

Underline: Good traits and reactions to strive to have that are mentioned in these Bible passages.

Define: Publican, obtain, persecute, vaunt, and envy.

Matthew 5:40-42 And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain. Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

Matthew 5:43-45 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

Matthew 5:46-48 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

Matthew 18:21-22 Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall

my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

Hebrews 6:15 And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.

Deuteronomy 8:2 And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

1 Corinthians 9:24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

Psalm 66:10,12 For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried. Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.

1 Corinthians.13:4-5,7 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up. Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.



Daily Diary

*What kinds of common, human nature lacks or habits are hard for you to be tolerant of? What types of mistakes and actions are extra hard for you to forgive? Choose a verse or phrase from the passages here to write in your diary, to claim when you face difficult-to-cope-with behaviour and situations.

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