

# JACOB GOES HOME

## *Genesis 32:1-21*

### **Genesis 32**

<sup>1</sup>Jacob also went on his way, and the angels of God met him. <sup>2</sup>When Jacob saw them, he said, “This is the camp of God!” So he named that place Mahanaim.

<sup>3</sup>Jacob sent messengers ahead of him to his brother Esau in the land of Seir, the country of Edom. <sup>4</sup>He instructed them: “This is what you are to say to my master Esau: ‘Your servant Jacob says, I have been staying with Laban and have remained there till now. <sup>5</sup>I have cattle and donkeys, sheep and goats, menservants and maidservants. Now I am sending this message to my lord, that I may find favor in your eyes.’”

<sup>6</sup>When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, “We went to your brother Esau, and now he is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him.”

<sup>7</sup>In great fear and distress Jacob divided the people who were with him into two groups, and the flocks and herds and camels as well. <sup>8</sup>He thought, “If Esau comes and attacks one group, the group that is left may escape.”

<sup>9</sup>Then Jacob prayed, “O God of my father Abraham, God of my father Isaac, O LORD, who said to me, ‘Go back to your country and your relatives, and I will make you prosper,’ <sup>10</sup>I am unworthy of all the kindness and faithfulness you have shown your servant. I had only my staff when I crossed this Jordan, but now I have become two groups. <sup>11</sup>Save me, I pray, from the hand of my brother Esau, for I am

afraid he will come and attack me, and also the mothers with their children. <sup>12</sup>But you have said, ‘I will surely make you prosper and will make your descendants like the sand of the sea, which cannot be counted.’”

<sup>13</sup>He spent the night there, and from what he had with him he selected a gift for his brother Esau: <sup>14</sup>two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams, <sup>15</sup>thirty female camels with their young, forty cows and ten bulls, and twenty female donkeys and ten male donkeys. <sup>16</sup>He put them in the care of his servants, each herd by itself, and said to his servants, “Go ahead of me, and keep some space between the herds.”

<sup>17</sup>He instructed the one in the lead: “When my brother Esau meets you and asks, ‘To whom do you belong, and where are you going, and who owns all these animals in front of you?’ <sup>18</sup>then you are to say, ‘They belong to your servant Jacob. They are a gift sent to my lord Esau, and he is coming behind us.’”

<sup>19</sup>He also instructed the second, the third and all the others who followed the herds: “You are to say the same thing to Esau when you meet him. <sup>20</sup>And be sure to say, ‘Your servant Jacob is coming behind us.’” For he thought, “I will pacify him with these gifts I am sending on ahead; later, when I see him, perhaps he will receive me.” <sup>21</sup>So Jacob’s gifts went on ahead of him, but he himself spent the night in the camp.





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POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) Why did Jacob send his messengers to his brother Esau?
5		2.) Why did Jacob divide his people into two groups? (Verses 7-8)
5		3.) What was Jacob going to give his brother? (Verses 13-15)
5		4.) Why do you think Jacob was worried about meeting his brother?

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		"...if your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him."  Luke 17:3

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE ___/___/___

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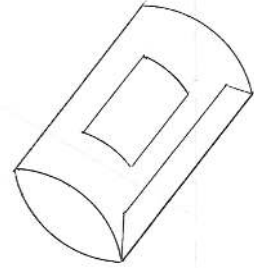
*Genesis 32:1-21*

## CRAFT/ACTIVITY: A PRESENT FOR ESAU

Students will make a present for Esau to remind them of how Jacob gave a gift of goats, ewes, rams, camels, cows, bulls, donkeys, menservants, and maidservants to pacify his brother.

### MATERIALS

1. White 67 lb. Cardstock
2. Gift box pattern
3. Scissors
4. Crayons or markers
5. Tape
6. Yarn or wrapping ribbon



### DIRECTIONS

1. Copy the present pattern onto 67 lb. cardstock for each student.
2. Have students color the animals with crayons or markers.
3. Cut out the animals and the gift box on the solid lines.
4. Fold the gift box on the dotted lines and tape the present on two sides.
5. Put the animals inside the gift box.
6. Tape up the other side.
7. Tie yarn or wrapping ribbon around the gift box.

### FOR DISCUSSION

As students are working on constructing and filling their gift boxes, remind them how Jacob was attempting to pacify his brother Esau after deceiving him. Esau was tricked out of his birthright and the blessing from his father Isaac. Jacob was worried that Esau might attack him as well as the people with him because when Jacob left, Esau was seeking to kill him. Jacob divided the people and animals into two groups. If one group was attacked, the other group would not be harmed. Esau, upon seeing his brother, embraced him and forgave him. We, like Esau, need to remember to forgive when we are wronged.

### TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 20 minutes

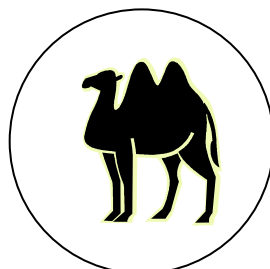
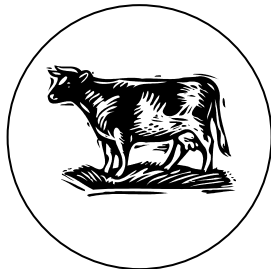
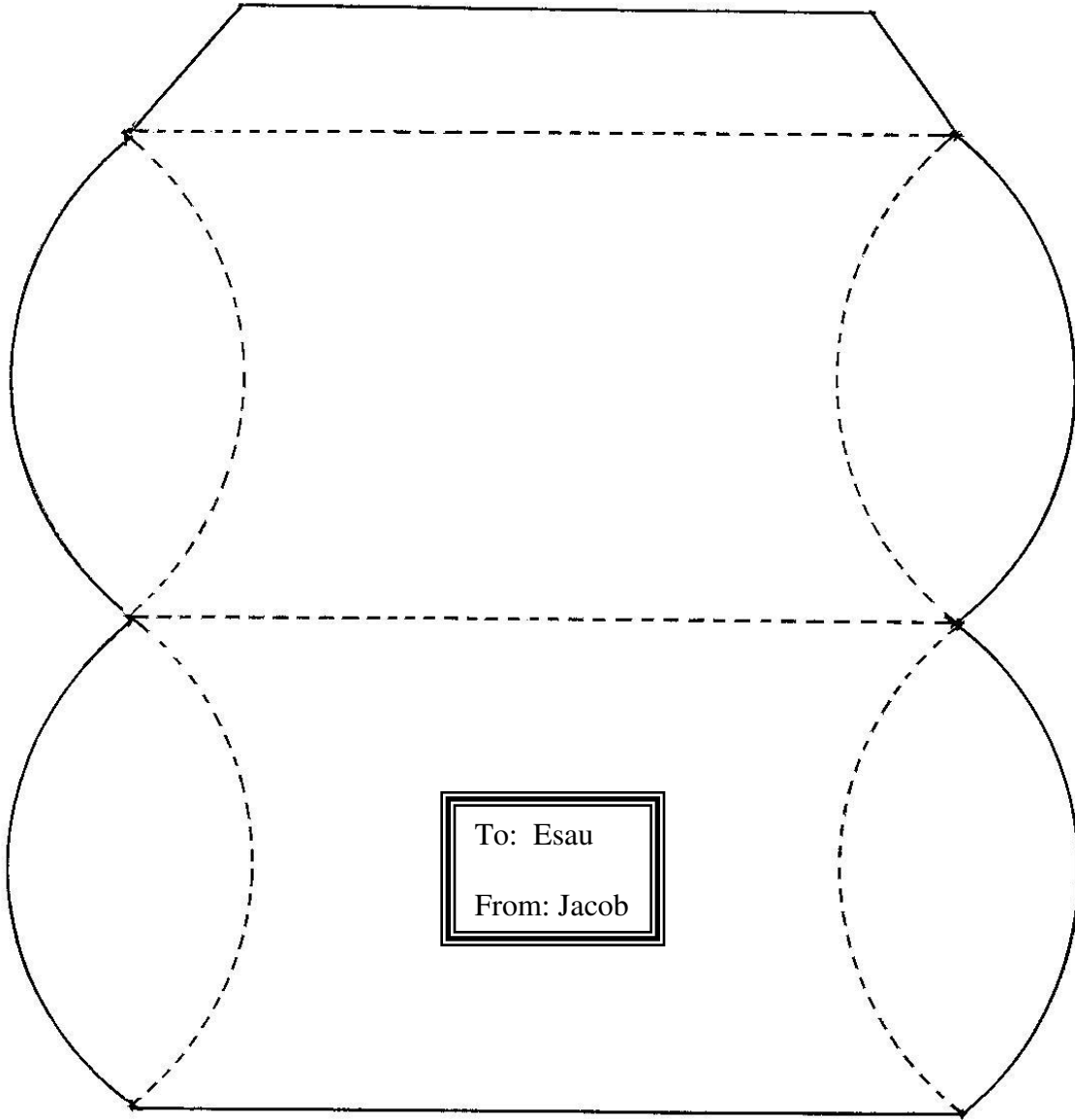
### MEMORY VERSE

*“...if your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him.”*  
*Luke 17:3*

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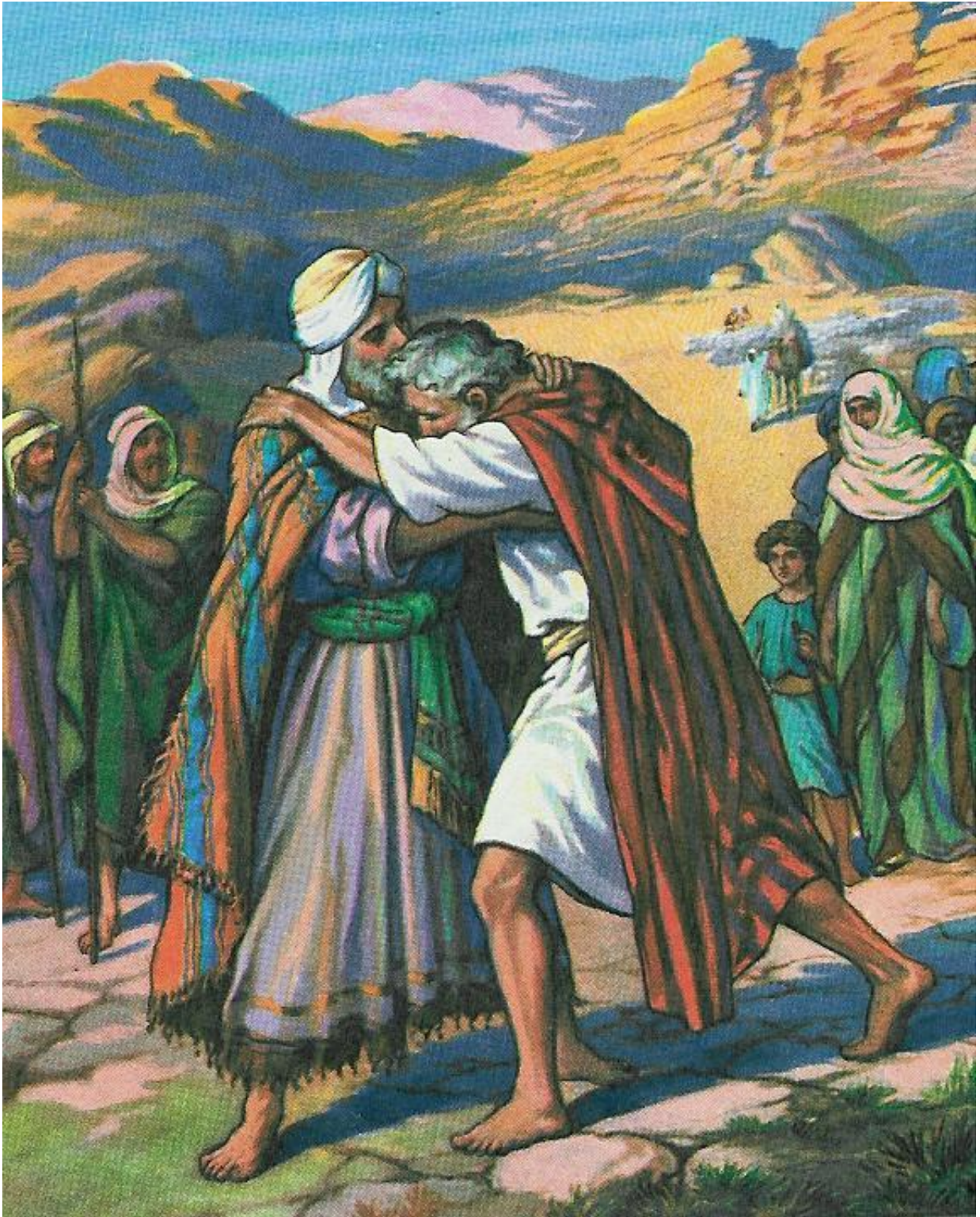
*Genesis 32:1-21*

## GIFT BOX PATTERN



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Picture from *The Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes* by Kenneth N. Taylor. Moody Press: Copyright © 1956.

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*Esau forgives his brother Jacob*

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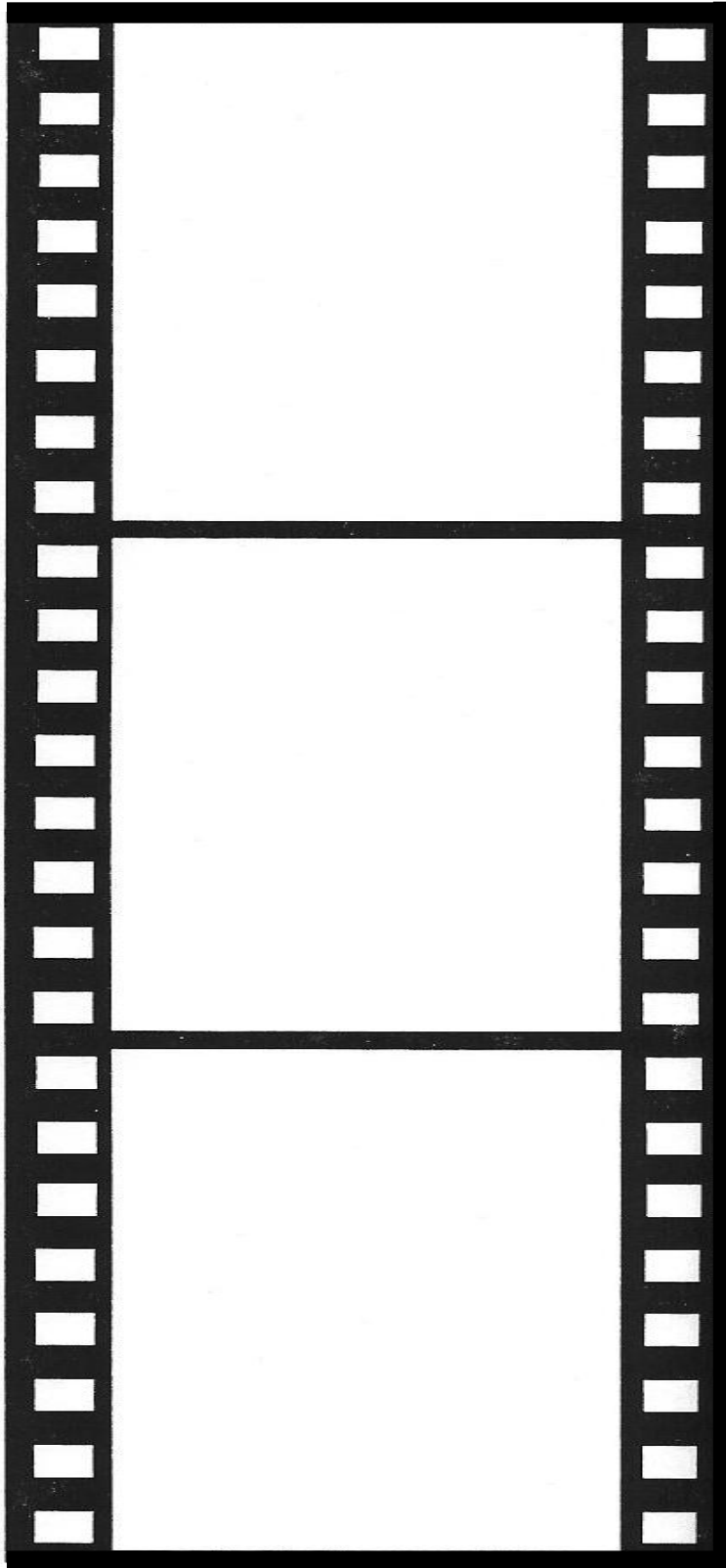
## *Genesis 32:1-21*

**Directions:** Turn this paper to the side. Draw a picture in each frame. Then underneath each picture, write a sentence describing what you drew.

At the end of the story...

In the middle of the story...

At the beginning of the story...



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# THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON GENESIS 32:1-21

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Jacob was on his way back home to visit his angry brother Esau when angels appeared to him. This reminded Jacob that God was with him as the Lord had

promised.

Jacob sent messengers ahead of him to talk with Esau. Jacob thought Esau would still be mad at him for tricking him out of his birthright and blessing from his father.

The messengers came back and told Jacob that Esau was coming with 400 men! Jacob was scared. Jacob divided his people and animals into two groups. That way, if Esau attacked, only half of his people and animals would die.

Jacob prayed to God for help.

In the morning, Jacob got together hundreds of animals as a gift for his brother. Jacob sent his servants ahead of himself with the animals.

When Jacob and Esau finally met, they hugged and cried. Esau forgave Jacob!

For more details, please read Genesis 32:1-21 in your Bible.

## QUESTIONS

1. Why did Jacob divide his people and animals into two groups?
2. Why was Esau once upset with Jacob?
3. What did Jacob and Esau do when they saw each other?
4. If you were Esau, would you have forgiven Jacob? Why or why not?

## MEMORY VERSE

"...if your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him."

Luke 17:3

## TRUE OR FALSE?

- |                                  |   |  |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | F | Jacob had tricked Esau in the past.  |
| <input type="radio"/>            | F | Angels appeared to Jacob on his way home.  |
| <input type="radio"/>            | F | Esau was seen coming toward Jacob with 700 men.  |
| <input type="radio"/>            | F | Esau yelled at Jacob in front of everyone.   |
| <input type="radio"/>            | F | Esau forgave his brother Jacob.  |
| <input type="radio"/>            | F | We should forgive others when they do something wrong just like Jesus did on the cross for us. |