

Forgiving Others

Genesis 27:41-33:17

Bible Memory Verse: “Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.” ~ Colossians 3:13

Supplies needed for this lesson:

Pencil

Last week we learned that Jacob tricked his brother, Esau, and his father, Isaac, to get the family blessing. Then he ran away to his Uncle because his brother and father were mad at him. This week we’re going to talk about what happened when God told Jacob to go home.

Print this week’s *Bible Discoveries* from the end of this lesson plan. Turn to page 4. Read each scene and write what the kids might say to each other in the conversation bubbles. When you feel hurt, what helps the hurt feelings? What does it mean to forgive? Sometimes asking for forgiveness can feel scary because we don’t know how the other person will act. In our Bible story today, Jacob had done something really rotten. He tricked his brother and lied to his father. Later he realized that he wanted to heal the hurt he had caused. Let’s find out what he did...

Click on the link below to watch a video of our Bible story. You can also read a drama based on the story from pages 2 and 3 in your *Bible Discoveries*. At the time of the story, Jacob had been away from home for 20 years. He had two wives – Leah and Rebecca – as well as many flocks of animals and servants.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zygVlowkYkQ>

How did Jacob show Esau he was sorry? He sent gifts to Esau along with a message that he wanted to come home. What did Jacob do to help his fear of meeting Esau? He asked God to forgive him and he asked for God’s help as he went to see his brother. How did Jacob and Esau heal their hurt? Jacob was sorry for what he had done and Esau forgave him.

Our Memory Verse this week (you can find it at the beginning of this lesson plan) says we should forgive others because God has forgiven us. Turn to page 1 in your *Bible Discoveries*. Follow the first part of the verse in the path to get Esau to his meeting with Jacob and follow the second part of the verse in the path to get Jacob to the meeting.

Both Esau and Jacob were happy after Jacob asked for Esau's forgiveness and it had been accepted. Asking for forgiveness can heal the hurts that sometimes happen when we don't act or say things the way God would want us to. Let's close our lesson today with a prayer of forgiveness.

Prayer:

Dear God, please forgive us when we don't do or say the right thing. And help us be brave enough to ask for forgiveness from others we have hurt. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

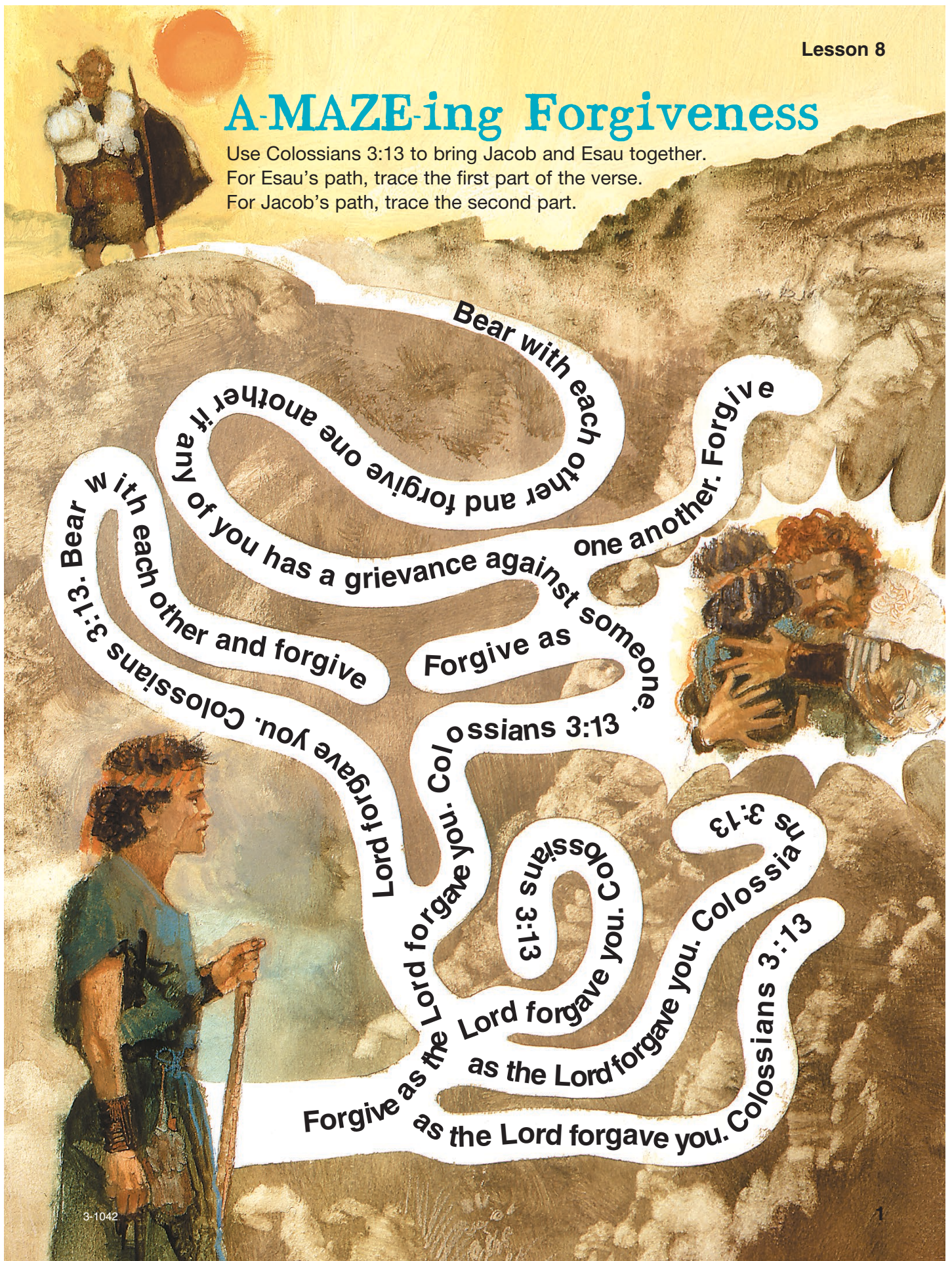
You can find this week's family page, *Bible Friends*, at the LCKids web page.

A-MAZE-ing Forgiveness

Use Colossians 3:13 to bring Jacob and Esau together.

For Esau's path, trace the first part of the verse.

For Jacob's path, trace the second part.





If Jacob Had Kept a Journal

Bible Story from Genesis 27:41—33:17

At last! I'm going home! I came here 20 years ago to work. I didn't think I would ever see my family again. My brother Esau was so mad at me. I had taken his rights as the family leader. I had taken his blessing. So I came to live with my mother's brother.

Uncle Laban let me work for him. I didn't own anything when I came. Now I have two wives and many children.

Now God has told me to go back home. I hope I can heal the hurts between Esau and me.

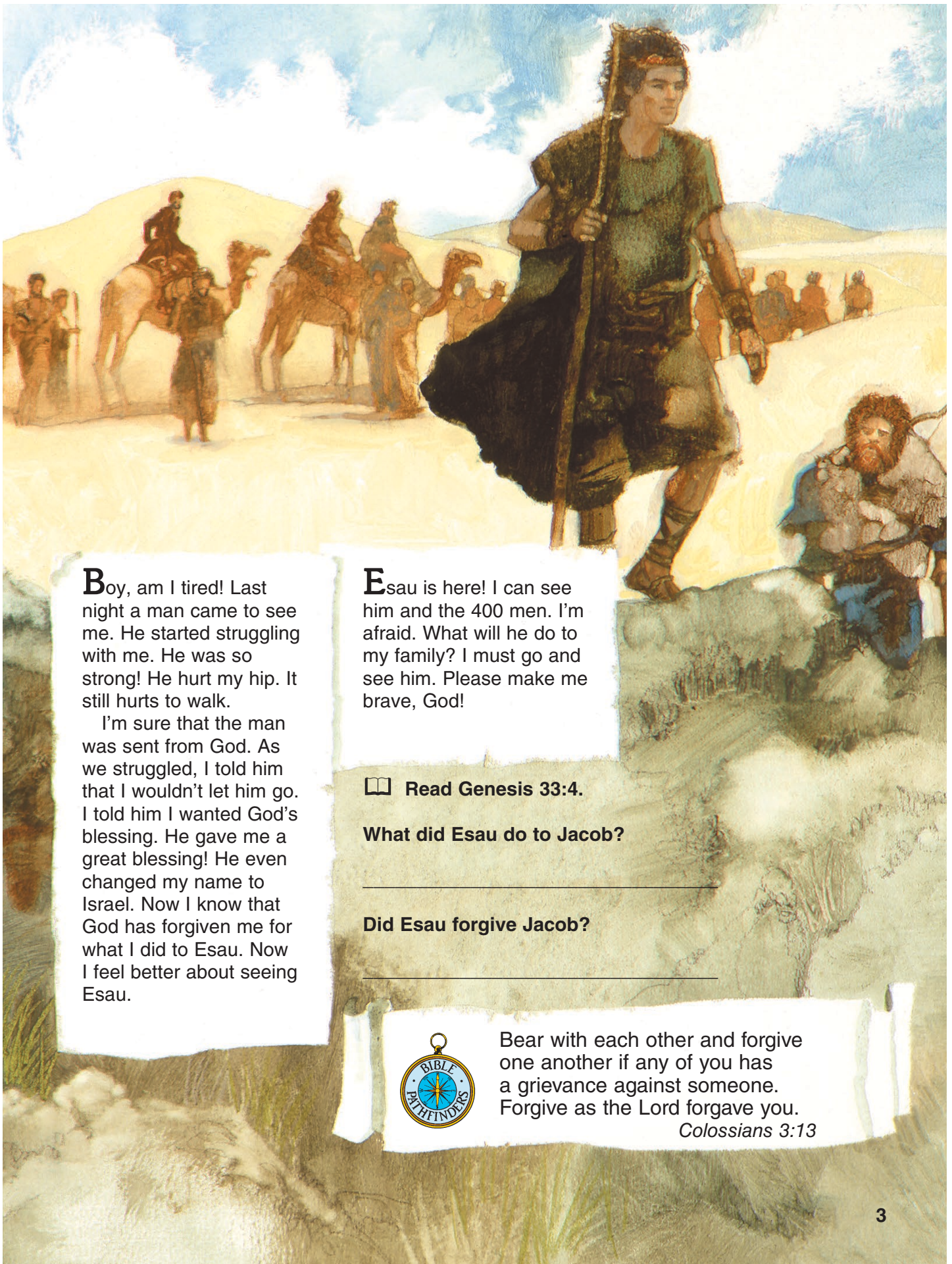
Today I sent messengers to Esau. I said I'm coming home. I promised to give him presents—cows and sheep. I hope he's not mad anymore. I hope he'll forgive me.

Oh, no! What am I going to do? My messengers just came back. They said that Esau is on his way. He's bringing 400 men! Is he going to attack my family? I have to think of something!

I know what to do! I'll put my family and animals into two groups. If Esau attacks one group, the other group will be safe.

I'll send ahead and give my best animals to Esau. That will show how sorry I am. I hope he forgives me. My trick was very mean. He might still be mad.

But God promised to take care of me. I have to trust that if I do what's right, He will heal the hurts.



Boy, am I tired! Last night a man came to see me. He started struggling with me. He was so strong! He hurt my hip. It still hurts to walk.

I'm sure that the man was sent from God. As we struggled, I told him that I wouldn't let him go. I told him I wanted God's blessing. He gave me a great blessing! He even changed my name to Israel. Now I know that God has forgiven me for what I did to Esau. Now I feel better about seeing Esau.

Esau is here! I can see him and the 400 men. I'm afraid. What will he do to my family? I must go and see him. Please make me brave, God!

 **Read Genesis 33:4.**

What did Esau do to Jacob?

Did Esau forgive Jacob?

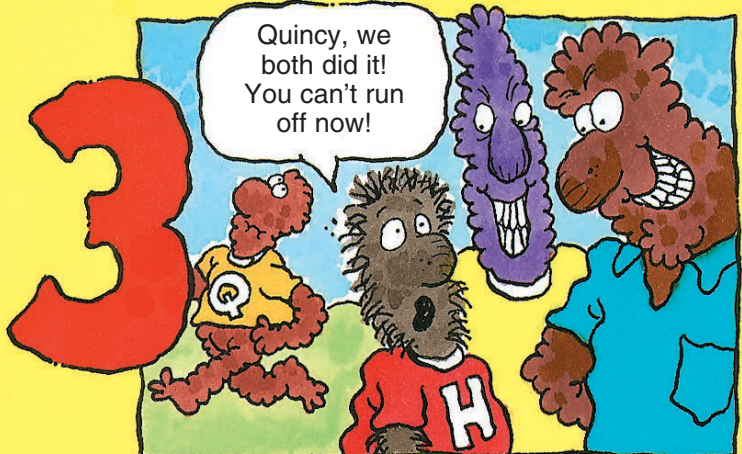


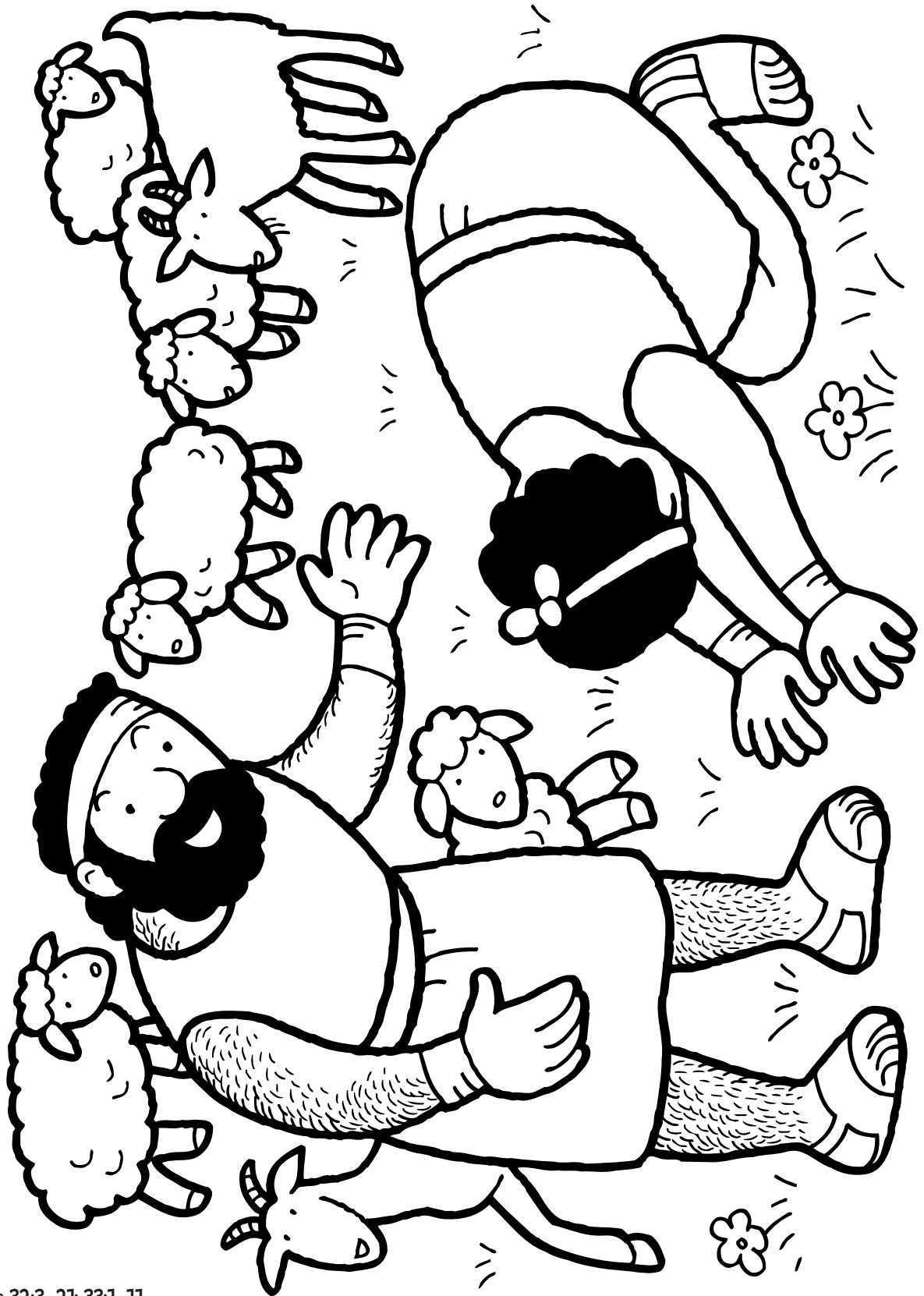
Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Colossians 3:13

Patch It Up

These friends are having problems!
Can you show these kids that forgiving heals hurts?
Write in what the kids might say to each other.





Genesis 32:3–21; 33:1–11

Esau Forgives Jacob

Big Book of Coloring Pages
with Bible Stories for Kids of All Ages
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Jacob & Esau Word Search

T R I C K Q H R

R U N S N I W T

B R O T H E R W

S S E L B F F D

**BLESS
BROTHER
RUN
TRICK
TWINS**

