

Jacob Meets Rachel

Genesis 29:1-22

Level B | Lesson 3 | Teacher Overview



When Jacob saw Rachel... and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother...he went near and rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the flock. Then Jacob kissed Rachel, and lifted up his voice and wept....

So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed a few days to him because of the love he had for her.

Genesis 29:10-11,20

For Teachers

This lesson has several activity options. You may wish to choose 2-3. Reading through all of the options will help you identify the activities that are best suited to your group's size, student mix, available supplies, and the time you have to prepare. You may also want to mix and match activities from other age levels.

Activity Options

1. Talk About It
2. Illustration: Jacob Rolls the Stone from the Well
3. Memory Verse
4. Make: The Lord's Promise for Marriage Book
5. Make: Jacob Opens the Well Pop-up
6. Coloring Picture: Jacob and Rachel

Talk About It

Reading: Genesis 29:1-22

Jacob arrived in Haran after traveling about 500 miles. He came to a well in a field where shepherds were gathering to water their flocks. Seeing Rachel approaching with her flock, Jacob rolled the stone from the well and watered her sheep. Jacob returned to Rachel's home and met her father, his uncle Laban. Jacob worked for Laban for seven years in exchange for marrying Rachel.

1. Have you ever taken a long journey? Have you ever taken a journey that took longer than a day? What was it like? Did you go by car or in an airplane? How did you feel when you arrived at the place you were going to?
2. In today's story Jacob was close to the end of his long journey. He started walking in Beersheba, which was 500 miles away. It took many many days—perhaps a month—to get to Haran where his uncle lived.
3. While he was walking in a field he met some shepherds who were they waiting at a well. Why were they waiting? (for all of the shepherds to gather with their flocks)
4. Have you ever been really thirsty and had nothing to drink? Imagine being outside on a hot day with nothing to drink. In Jacob's time people got water from streams or wells. They brought water up from deep down underground using a bucket on a long rope. Wells were important and very valuable. People who owned a well protected their water supply by putting a large stone on top.
5. What did Jacob do when he saw Rachel coming? (rolled the stone off the well and gave her sheep water)
6. Rachel and Jacob were cousins. Laban, Rachel's father, was Jacob's uncle. When Laban heard that Jacob was coming he ran out to meet him. They were so happy to see each other! Have you ever met relatives who have come a long way away to see you? How did you feel when you met for the first time?
7. Jacob stayed with Laban's family and took care of the animals. Laban had two daughters. His older daughter could not see very well. She had "delicate eyes." What was her name? (Leah) The younger daughter was beautiful and Jacob loved her. What was her name? (Rachel)
8. What did Jacob ask for in return for his work? (Rachel, for his wife)
9. Jacob agreed to work seven years for Rachel! He loved Rachel so much that seven years felt like a short time to him.
10. The Lord is preparing a special person for each one of us to marry. Like Jacob, we can wait patiently to find the right person—if not in this life, then in the next. The Lord gives people His greatest blessings through true married love.



Memory Verse:

Jacob Meets Rachel



Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed but a few days to him because of the love he had for her.

Genesis 29:20

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Genesis 29:20

Cut in quarters and give one to each student to take home.

Make: The Lord's Promise for Marriage Book



At a Glance:

In this activity students will create booklets illustrating the states of true marriage love that the Lord promises to those who long for and work for “a lovely partnership with one” (Conjugal Love 49). The method is watercolor wash, done on damp paper, which allows children to create quick, flowing illustrations. The descriptions of the meanings of the phrases on the teacher’s chart and the italicized introduction and conclusion below come from *The Love of Loves*, written by Jill Rogers and published by the General Church Office of Education.

Supplies Needed:

- set of 8 pages on the states of true marriage love cut apart for each child
- *The Lord's Promise Booklet Chart* of explanations and picture ideas for the teacher
- watercolor paints
- soft paintbrushes
- jars of water
- sponge in bowl of water
- newspaper or other covering to protect table
- stapler
- *optional*: hair dryer to speed up the drying process

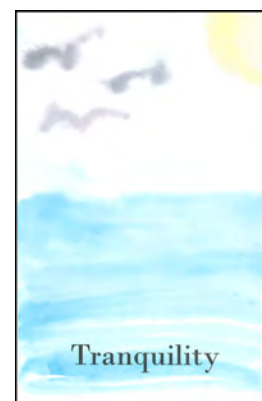
Teacher Preparation:

- Cut the pages for the booklets apart, providing one complete set for each student.
- Read through *The Lord's Promise Booklet Chart* for meaning and picture suggestions.

Make: The Lord's Promise for Marriage Book continued

Directions:

1. Introduce the activity: The Lord wants everyone to be as happy as they can possibly be. One way He provides happiness is in marriage. When a man and a woman get married, they make special promises to the Lord. When they keep these promises, the Lord gives them the gift of true marriage love or conjugal love. True marriage love brings people wonderful feelings. We will create booklets illustrating the feelings that the Lord promises.
2. Distribute a set of pages to each student. Show them how to wet the first page using the sponge. (Depending on your group, you may want to do this step for them.)
3. For the first page, let students experiment with painting on the wet paper and seeing what happens. Suggest that they use colors that make them happy. When students are done, set the first pages aside to dry.
4. One by one, have students wet and then paint on the rest of the pages. Explain the meaning of each word or phrase, using the chart provided on the next page. Each phrase also has suggested picture ideas. Most are symbols for the feeling being described.
5. As you let pages dry tell students: The Lord tells us that we can prepare for true marriage love from the time we are young. He tells us to pray to Him, and ask Him for a lovely partnership with one person. The Lord tells us to read His Word and to love and obey the truths we learn there. He tells boys and girls and men and women to respect each other. He tells us to stay away from feelings that will make it hard to love and honor a husband or a wife. Then the Lord can someday give us true marriage love.



The Lord's Promise Booklet Chart

Explanations of the words and phrase come from *The Love of Loves*, a book written by Jill Rogers.

Booklet	Explanation	Picture Ideas
True Marriage Love	The Lord wants to give everyone the gift of true marriage love which brings people wonderful feelings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> swirls in happy colors
Innocence	<p>Innocence is the willingness to follow the Lord and walk in the path of His commandments.</p> <p>It is shunning evils as sins against the Lord.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sheep doves
Peace	<p>Peace is knowing that the Lord will provide everything that is needed for a couple to live a good life together.</p> <p>It is knowing that the Lord will protect people from the evils that can harm a marriage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sunrise
Tranquility	<p>Tranquility is the feeling a married couple has when they know that the Lord is with them and is helping them to love and care for each other.</p> <p>It is a gentle feeling that can help them if they begin to worry or get sad. It helps them feel safe and secure because they know that everything will be all right.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> calm ocean or stream person sleeping
Inmost Friendship	<p>Inmost friendship is a husband and wife being able to tell each other their thoughts and feelings, even private ones.</p> <p>It is a married couple being able to have a special time whatever they are doing.</p> <p>It is a husband and wife wanting to be with each other more than with anyone else.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> two hearts
Full Confidence	<p>Full confidence is married partners knowing that they will not ever lie to each other or hurt each other on purpose.</p> <p>It is a husband and wife trusting that their partner will never wish they were married to someone else and will never act like they are married to someone else.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shield rock
Mutual Desire to Do the Other Every Good	<p>A mutual desire to do the other every good is each married partner wanting and working to make the other person happy.</p> <p>It is a husband and wife helping each other to follow the Lord because they know that will make them happier than anything else.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> two people
Blessedness, happiness, delight, pleasure and the joy of heaven	<p>The special feelings of true marriage love will make a couple happy both on earth and in heaven forever.</p> <p>The Lord gathers all blessedness, happiness, delight, pleasure and joy into true marriage love. For this reason, it is called "the love of loves".</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> swirls in happy colors

**The States of
True
Marriage Love**

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Marriage Love**

Innocence

Innocence

Peace

Peace

Tranquility

Tranquility

**Inmost
Friendship**

**Inmost
Friendship**

Full Confidence

Full Confidence

**Mutual Desire
to Do the Other
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**From these
states come
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Make: Jacob Opens the Well Pop-up

At a Glance:

Students will create a pop-up moving picture of Jacob moving the rock away from the well's opening so that he could water Rachel's flocks. Although there are a number of steps, this activity is not as difficult as it might at first look.



Supplies Needed for Each Student:

- *Jacob Opens the Well* - 2 pages, printed on heavy paper
- scissors
- clear tape
- markers
- *optional*: blue glitter and glue to make the water in the well sparkle, glitter box or newspaper
- *optional*: rocks or other heavy objects for children to try to move



Teacher Preparation:

- Make a sample project to show the children following the instructions below.
- *Optional*: Collect a few large rocks or other heavy objects for the children to move.

Directions:

1. Introduce the activity: Have you ever tried to move something that is very heavy on your own? What parts of our bodies can help us move heavy things? (shoulder, legs, back)
2. *Optional*: We are going to try to move some heavy things. Let's start by squatting down so that we can use our strong leg muscles to help us. Push hard!
3. Imagine what it must have been like for Jacob to move the heavy rock from the well's mouth. Think how hard he must have worked and how much he must have loved Rachel to do this.
4. Show the children the sample project: We are going to make a moving model like this that shows Jacob moving the rock to open the mouth or top of the well.
5. Distribute the project pages and give children the following instructions, step by step as they are ready for the next one.
6. Color the pictures.

Make: Jacob Opens the Well Pop-up continued

7. Cut out the pieces along the black edge lines, being careful not to cut off the piece of rock that sticks out beyond the straight edge on one of the pictures.
8. Fold the picture of Jacob and the well along the dotted line. It is easiest to first fold it so you can see the line and then fold it back the other direction along the same line (see picture).
9. Put the picture of the stone over the well on top of the folded picture of Jacob and line up one edge along the fold so the edge of the rock covers up the edge of the well. Tape the edges of the two top layers together (see picture).
10. Slit the two rock and arm pictures along the straight lines in the rocks.
11. Using the slit lines, slide the two rocks together so that the arms are both in back and the rock edges are in front (see picture).
12. Unfold the main picture so you can see the well without the rock and place the arm and rock pieces on top of it.
13. Line one of the arms up with the matching arm in the main picture. Using the straight lines on Jacob's arms as a guide, place a piece of tape across the arm, securing it to the page underneath (see picture).
14. Repeat step 13 with the other arm.
15. Gently fold over the picture to show the closed well. (This will bend the arms).
16. When you unfold the picture, you will see Jacob moving the stone and opening the mouth of the well!
17. *Optional:* Spread glue over the water in the well and sprinkle blue glitter on it.



Step 8



Step 9

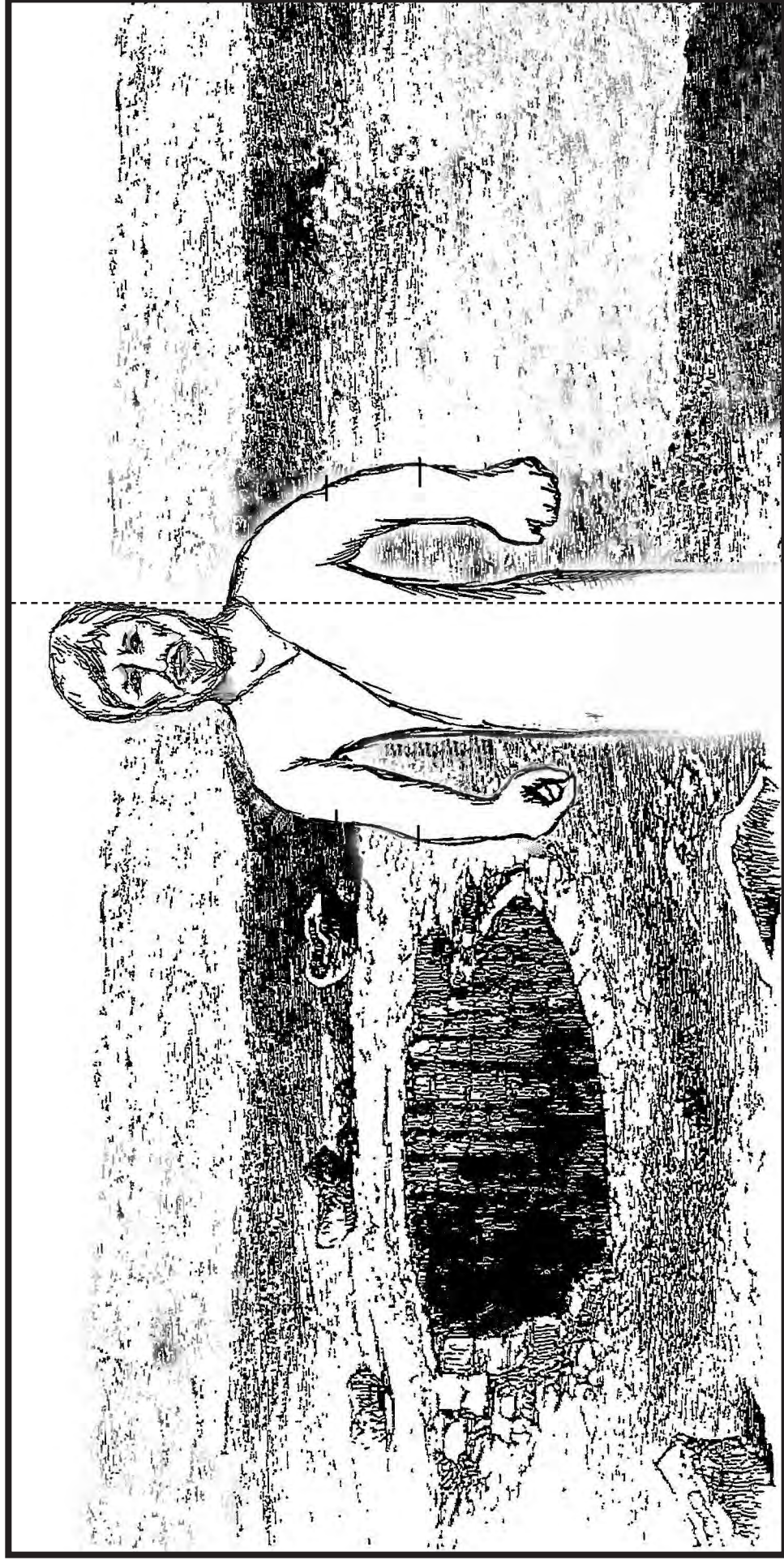


Step 11



Step 13

Jacob Opens the Well - 1



Jacob Opens the Well - 2

