LESSON 1: ‘LORD, GIVE US A CHILD’

AIM: To show how God heard and answered Isaac’s prayer for a child

MEMORY VERSE: *Call to Me and I will answer you ,....”* Jeremiah 33v3(a)

GAME: THE NAME GAME
Sit the children in a circle. Each child must put an adjective starting with the same letter as their name before their Christian name, e.g ‘Magnificent Megan’, ‘Angellic Adam’, ‘Restless Ryan’, etc. As each child says their name, they must remember the names of the children on either side of them. Go round the circle a second time; this time each child must repeat the names of those on either side as well as their own.

PICTOGRAM:
This pictogram can be used for teaching the memory verse. Either photocopy one puzzle for each child or reproduce on either overhead projector transparency or poster for the whole group.
LORD, GIVE US A CHILD (continued)

STORY: Genesis 25:20-26

Isaac was 40 years old when he married Rebekah. In those days, it was not only important who you married, but also very important that married couples had children. Jewish women believed that children were a sign of God’s blessing. After Isaac and Rebekah had been married a few years, Rebekah became worried because she had no children. Often Isaac would find her crying and every time it was the same reason, “We have no children, doesn’t God love us? What will people be saying about us?” Isaac tried to comfort Rebekah but nothing helped.

So Isaac did the best thing he could - he began to pray to God for a child. Isaac prayed for weeks and months and years for a child. In fact, he was 60 years old before God answered his prayer and Rebekah, his wife, became pregnant. God gave them twins and told Rebekah that they would both be the leaders of nations, and that one would be stronger than the other and the elder would serve the younger.

Rebekah waited excitedly for her twins to be born. The first child born was covered in red hair all over his body, so they called him Esau, which means hairy. The second baby was born straight after the first and he was holding onto his brother's heel, so they named him Jacob, which means supplanter or one who takes the place of another unfairly.

Right from the day of their birth, Jacob and Esau were different, but God had a plan for each of them. The Bible tells us that God knows us before we are born, and that He knitted us together while we were in our mother’s womb,

DISCUSSION STARTERS:
- Do you know what God’s plan is for your life?
- What can you do to allow God to achieve His plan for you?
JACOB AND ESAU
GOD HEARS YOUR PRAYERS
Genesis 25:20-26

MEMORY VERSE: Jer. 33:3a...
‘Call on Me and I will answer you..’

Isaac was 40 years old when he married Rebekah. In Bible times it was not only important who you married, but also very important that married couples had children. Jewish women believed that children were a sign of God’s blessing.

After Isaac and Rebekah had been married a few years, Rebekah became worried because she had no children. Often Isaac would find her in their tent crying, and every time it was the same reason ... ‘We have no children! Doesn’t God love us? What will people be saying about us?’ Isaac tried to comfort Rebekah, but nothing seemed to help.

So Isaac then did the very best thing he could - he began to pray and ask God for a child. Isaac prayed for weeks and months and years for a child. In fact, Isaac was 60 years old before God answered his prayers and, at last, Rebekah became pregnant. God not only gave them one child, He gave them twins. God told Rebekah that they would both be leaders of nations, and that one would be stronger than the other, and the elder child would serve the younger one.

Rebekah waited excitedly for her babies to be born. When the big day finally arrived, she delivered twins just as God had said. The first child born was covered in red hair all over his body, so they called him Esau, which means ‘hairy’. The second baby was born straight after the first, and he was holding onto Esau’s heel, so they named him Jacob, which means ‘one who takes the places of another’.

Right from the day of their birth, Jacob and Esau were different, but God had a plan for each one. The Bible tells us that God know us before we are born, and that He knitted us together while we were in our mother’s womb.

Do you know what God’s plan is for your life? Have you thought about what you must do for God to be able to work out His plan in your life? When you pray, God hears and answers.
In Bible times, people believed that children were a sign of God’s blessing. Isaac and Rebekah had been married for some time and had no children. Rebekah worried about what people would think. Her husband prayed.

Parents: I __ __ __ __ and
R __ __ __ __ __ __.

Isaac p __ __ __ __ __ for a child. God answered his prayers, but they
w __ __ _____ __ a long time.

The firstborn son was E __ __ __. His
name means h __ __ __ __ __ __ __. He liked to
h __ __ __ for wild a __ __ __ __ __ __ __.

Esau’s twin was J __ __ __ __ __ __. He was
born grabbing the h __ __ __ of Esau. His
name means s __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ or one who takes the place of another unfairly.
Unscramble the words and write them on the lines below.

lalC ot eM,

dna I lwli

rseanw uyo.

Jmireahe 33:3 (a)
Write Jeremiah 33:3

Cut around blue border. Hand out one to each child. Have children write verse on lines and fold on dotted lines.