LESSON 3:

THE STOLEN BLESSING

AIM: To show the children that we should not be talked into doing anything we know to be wrong.

MEMORY VERSE: Do not follow an evil example. 3 John v 11

PRESENTATION: Prepare a Pass The Parcel containing instruction cards with actions printed on each, such, e.g 'walk like a penguin', 'quack like a duck', 'fly like a bird', 'hop like a kangaroo', etc. When the music stops, the child with the parcel must do the required action and the group then follows. In the last wrapper have the memory verse words written on separate pieces of paper. The last child puts the words in order.

STORY: Genesis 27:1-45
Isaac was very old and knew that it was almost the end of his life. It was a family tradition for the father to give to his children and in particular, his firstborn son, a blessing. The Jews believed that God spoke through the father and that the blessing would come true for the son and also for the generations to follow.

So Isaac asked Esau to go and hunt some animals and prepare for meat for him, then he would give Esau a blessing. But Rebekah overheard what Isaac said to Esau and began to plan. She called Jacob and asked him to kill two small goats for the herd. She cooked the meat just the way Isaac liked it and told Jacob to take it to his father and receive his brother's blessing while Esau was out hunting.
THE STOLEN BLESSING (continued)

But Jacob reminded his mother that Esau was very hairy and his father would know the difference between his two sons. So Rebekah took some of Esau's clothes and put them on Jacob, and she also put some animal skins on his hands, arms and neck and sent him with the meat into his father.

Isaac was quite blind and feeble, so as Jacob entered the tent, he asked his son to come close so he could feel him and make sure it was Esau. Isaac asked, ‘Are you really Esau? You have the voice of Jacob, but you feel like Esau.” Jacob continued to deceive his father as he said, “Yes, I am Esau, father.” After Isaac smelt Esau's clothes and felt the hair on Jacob's hands and neck, he gave Jacob the firstborn's blessing.

As soon as Jacob left his father’s tent, Esau returned from hunting. He soon realized that once again, his devious brother had cheated him. Hatred and anger rose within him, and Esau decided that he would kill Jacob for what he had done to him.

DISCUSSION STARTERS:
- What do think about families where some children are more favoured by parents than others?
- What should Jacob have said to his mother when she overheard Isaac talking to Esau and then schemed with Jacob to cheat Esau out of his right of birth as the firstborn son?
JACOB AND ESAU
THE STOLEN BLESSING
Genesis 27:1-45

MEMORY VERSE: 3 John v 11
‘Do not follow an evil example’.

Isaac was very old and knew it was almost time for him to die. It was a family tradition for the father to give his children, especially the firstborn, a blessing. The Jews believed that God spoke through the father and that the blessing would come true for the son and also for the generations to follow.

So Isaac asked Esau to go and hunt some animals and prepare a meal before he gave his firstborn son a blessing. But Rebekah heard what Isaac said to Esau and she began to make plans of her own. She called her favourite son, Jacob, and asked him to kill two small goats from the herd. She cooked the meat just the way Isaac liked it and told Jacob to take it to his father and receive the blessing in place of Esau. But Jacob reminded his mother that Esau was very hairy and his father would know the difference between the sons. So Rebekah took some of Esau’s clothes and put them on Jacob, then she put some animal skins on his hands and arms and neck, and sent Jacob with the meat into his father’s tent.

Isaac’s eyesight and hearing were failing him as he grew old, and he was not very alert, so he asked his son to come close to let him feel him to make sure it was Esau. Isaac asked, ‘Are you really Esau? You have the voice of Jacob but you feel like Esau.’ Jacob continued to deceive his father as he said, ‘Yes, I am Esau.’ Isaac was not expecting to be deceived by someone in his own family. After he smelt Esau’s clothes and felt the hair on Jacob’s hands and neck, he gave Jacob the blessing of the firstborn son.

As soon as Jacob left his father’s tent, Esau returned from his hunting trip. He went into his father’s tent and soon realized that once again, Jacob had cheated him. Hatred and anger rose up within him and Esau decided that one day he would kill Jacob for what he had done. The family of Isaac was very unhappy.

Be careful not to be talked into doing anything you know is wrong.
Complete the sentence.
Jacob disguised himself as E _______ by wearing __________________

__________________________________________________________
in order to steal _________________________________

from his father, I__________ (Genesis 27:1-45).
Write the story in your own words.....

Genesis 27:1-45
Isaac was very old. He knew it was almost
time for him to die. His wife, Rebekah,
persuaded Jacob to deceive his father, and
pretend he was Esau in order to receive the
traditional family blessing of the firstborn
son. Rebekah put goat’s hair on Jacob so that
he might appear as hairy as Esau and sent him
into Isaac’s tent to steal the blessing.

Write the memory verse, 3 John verse 11 ....

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