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MAHDERE-SEBEHAT LEDETA LEMARIAM
ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX
TEWAHEDO CHURCH



**Lessons are prepared by Ledeta LeMariam
Sunday School
Alexandria, Virginia**

In the name of the
Father, and the Son, and
the Holy Spirit, one God.
Amen.



Begin with the Lord's prayer

Our Lord and Savior, our King and God, we thank you for gathering us here to stand before you to call on your Holy Name.

Heavenly Father, teach us to trust You in everything we do.

Our God open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds to Your Word today.

Bless all the children and keep them safe. Hear us when we humbly and thankfully pray to you.

Our Father, who art in heaven

Hallowed be thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done

On earth as it is in heaven

Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us our trespasses

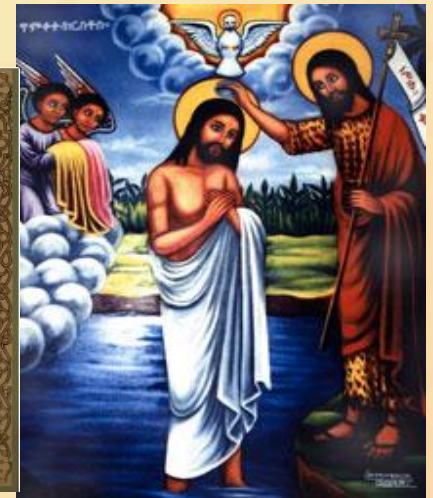
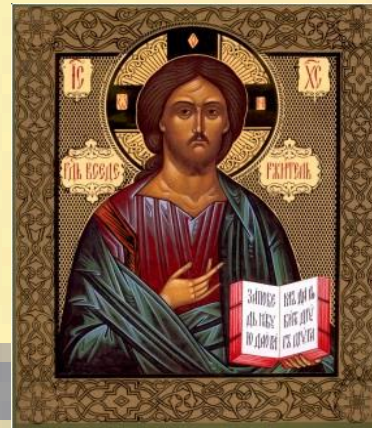
As we forgive those who trespass against us

And lead us not into temptation

But deliver us from the evil one

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the

Glory. Forever, Amen.



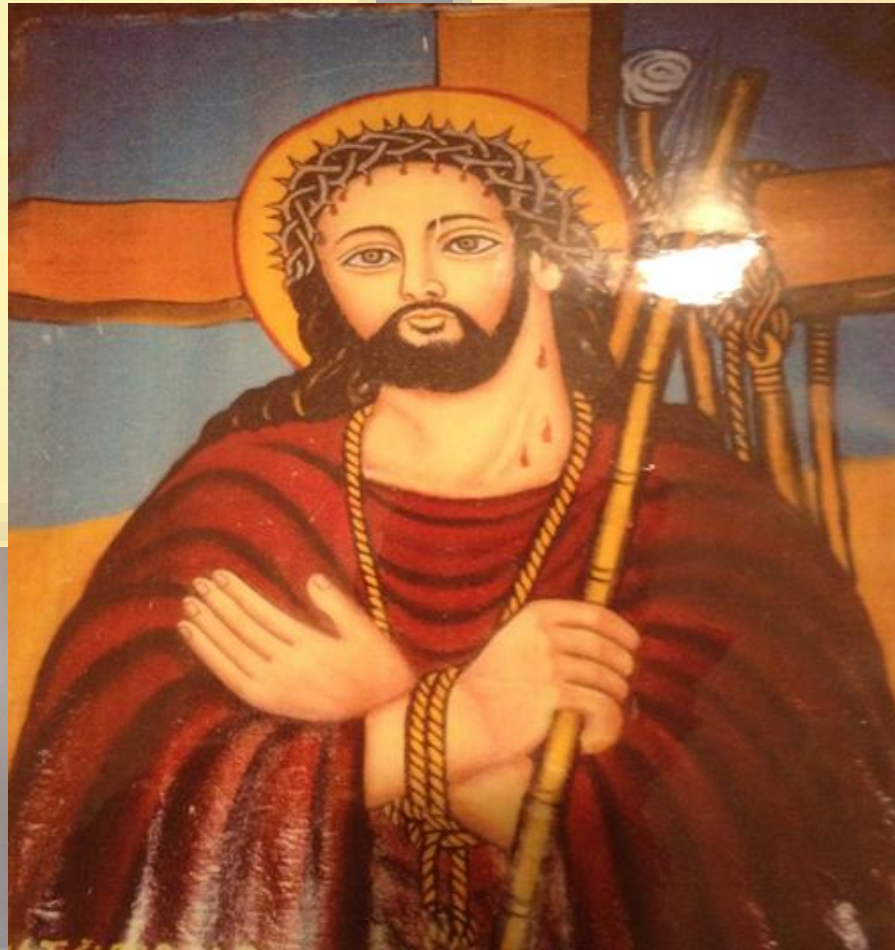
O our Lady, as St. Gabriel greeted you, “Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.” True Virgin in conscience as well as body, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Holy Mary, the God-bearer, pray that your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, may forgive us our sins. Amen.



Say The Jesus Prayer 3 times

**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
have mercy on me, a sinner.**



Review

1. Who was the one with a lot of hair?
2. Who grabbed the heel when they were born?
3. What is the meaning of the name Jacob?
4. Who was a skillful hunter?
5. Who asked to sell him his birthright?
6. Why did Isaac blessed Jacob instead of Esau?
7. Why did Jacob leave home after he stole Esau's blessings?
8. What kind of dream did Jacob see on the road to his uncle's house?
9. What does the ladder symbolize?

MEMORY VERSE

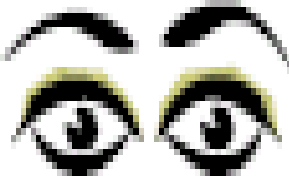


**Can anyone tell me
last week's
memory verse???**

Recite Last week's memory verse

“Lie not to one another” (Colossians 3:9)



Class Covenant

I will keep my  on my teacher,
my  in control,
my s on God's Word;
knowing God is my goal.

Jacob marries Rachel and returns home

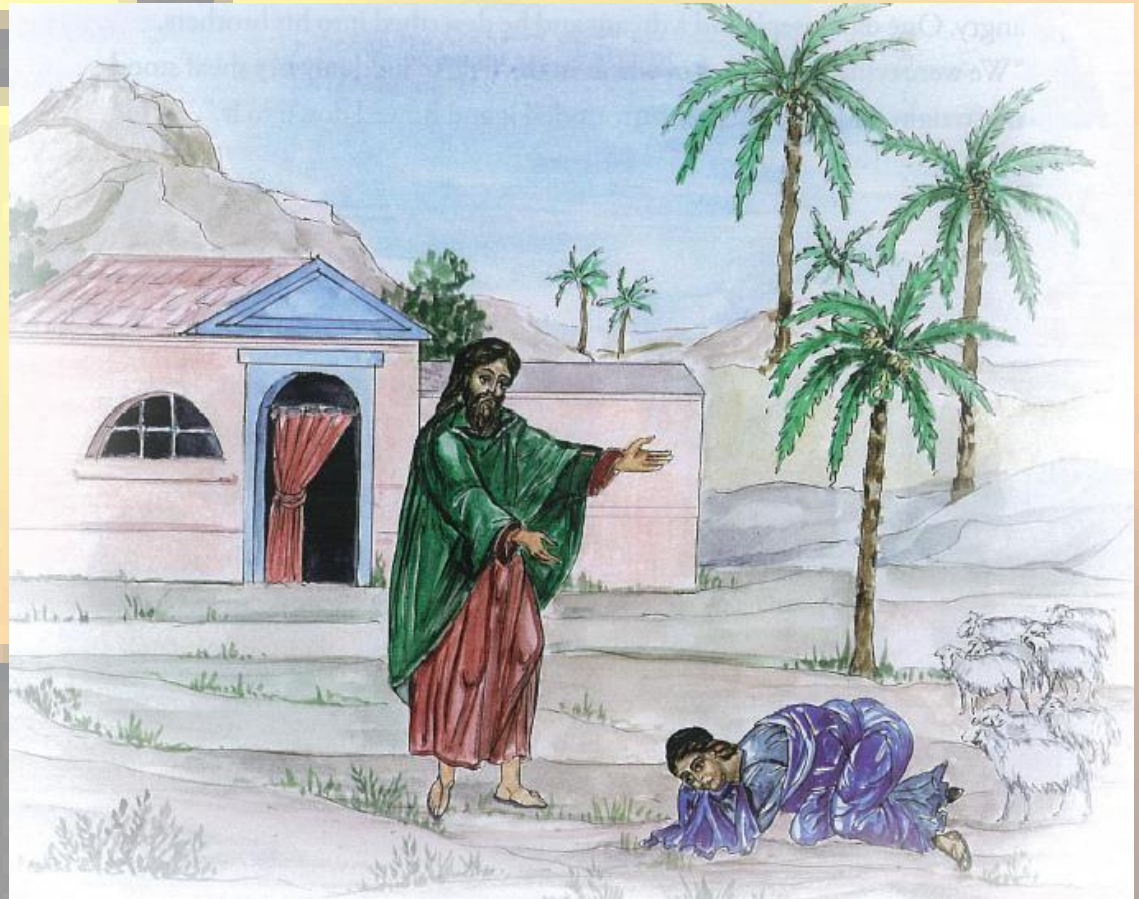


March 10, 2013

Memory Verse

Pursue peace with all men, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord."

HEBREWS 12:14



Objective

To learn and understand the story of Jacob and his return back home.

Jacob reached the land where his uncle Laban lived. Close to town of Haran, there was a well that had a large stone covering the opening. While Jacob was at a well Rachel, Laban's daughter came with her sheep. When Jacob saw Rachel, he went to the well, lifted off the heavy stone by himself, and gave water to Rachel's flock.



Jacob greeted Rachel with great joy and said “I am Jacob, Rebecca’s son. My mother is the sister of your father Laban.” Rachel ran quickly back to the house and told her father that Rebecca’s son has arrived.



Laban was very happy with Jacob's visit and invited him to stay with them. Jacob fell in love with Rachel and said to his uncle, "***I will work for you for seven years, if you will let me marry Rachel.***" Laban agreed. The seven years passed quickly for Jacob, because he was near Rachel, whom he loved.



When the time came, Laban invited many people for the wedding feast. The bride was wearing a beautiful dress with a veil so long and thick that Jacob could not see her face. The next morning Jacob saw that the bride was not Rachel, but Leah, her elder sister. Jacob went to Laban and asked why he tricked him. When confronted Laban said;



It is not custom here to let the younger sister get married first. “The older sister must marry first.” You can marry Rachel also! But you will have to work for me for seven more years.



So Jacob did what Laban told him. So Jacob worked another seven years to marry Rachael. Leah gave birth to many children. Rachel was sad because for many years she did not have a child.



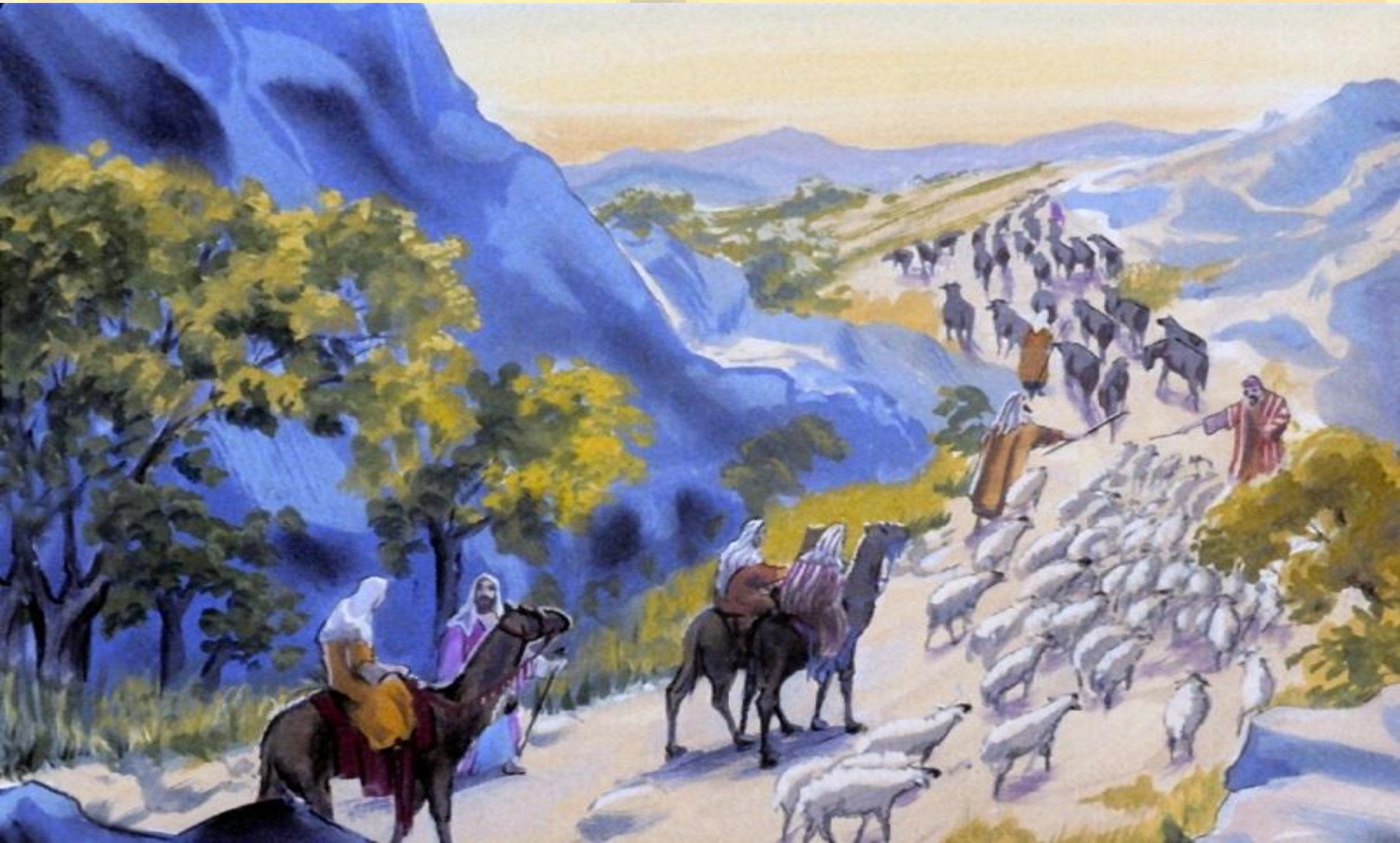
Jacob loved Rachel. Finally the Lord gave her a son whom she named Joseph. Jacob worked for Laban for a long time. Laban became rich because every job that Jacob did was a success. God prospered Jacob even more than Laban. Laban and his sons became jealous of Jacob because he was so wealthy.



They said angrily, whatever Jacob owns is actually ours. He took it from us. For this reason Jacob decided to leave Laban in secret. He placed Leah, Rachel, and the children on the camels, took all his flocks and his belongings, and decided to go back to Canaan, his homeland.



Three days later Laban learned that Jacob and his family had left. He quickly followed their path and caught up to them.



Laban said to Jacob, why are you secretly taking my daughters and grandchildren away from me? Jacob replied, why do you treat me like a thief? I have worked for you for twenty years. You became rich because of me.



Laban remembered that during the night God had appeared to him in a dream and had told him, Beware! Do not dare to harm Jacob!.



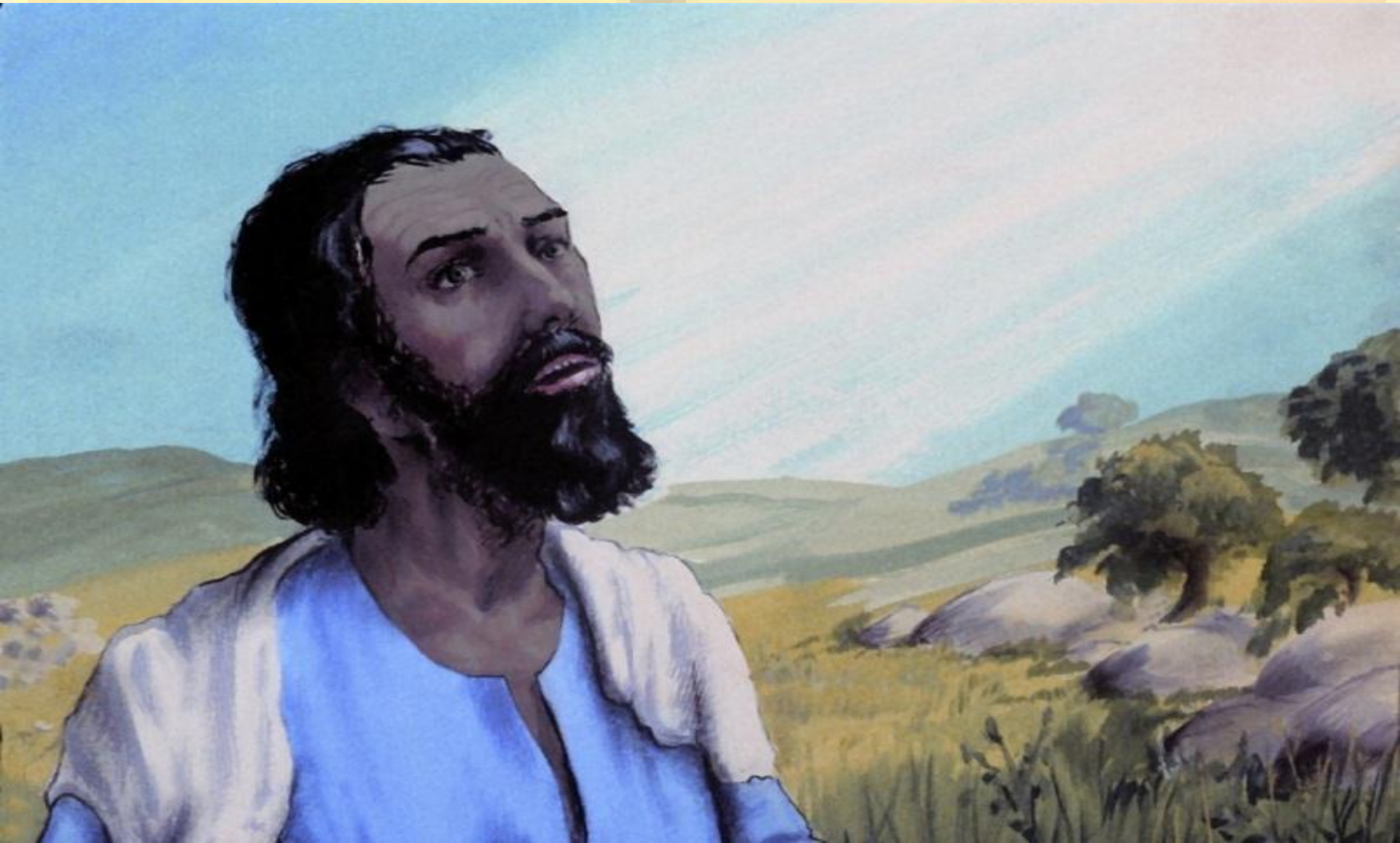
For this reason Laban said, “Let’s not argue. Let us come to an agreement. Laban and Jacob made a promise between them. We wish to keep peace, they said. Then they all ate and drank together.



The next morning Laban kissed his daughters and grandchildren and blessed them. Then he turned back to his home. Jacob and his family continued their journey.



As they approached Canaan, Jacob worried whether his brother Esau was still angry with him. Jacob prayed to God and decided to give Esau a large gift.



Jacob sent his servants and the animals ahead of him. When the servants met Esau, they had instructions to deliver the gifts. Jacob thought that perhaps this way his brother would accept his return.



That night Jacob and his family reached the Jabbok river. After helping the women and the children cross the river with all their belongings, Jacob stayed behind.



Then a man came and wrestled with Jacob all night long, but he could not win.



When the morning came, the man struck Jacob on the hip so hard that it was put out of joint. And the man said, “let me go; daylight is coming.” But Jacob said, I won’t unless you bless me. Then he asked, what is your name? “Jacob”, he replied. “Your name”, he said will no longer be Jacob but **Israel**, for you have struggled with God and with men, and you have won. The sun rose as Jacob crossed the river.



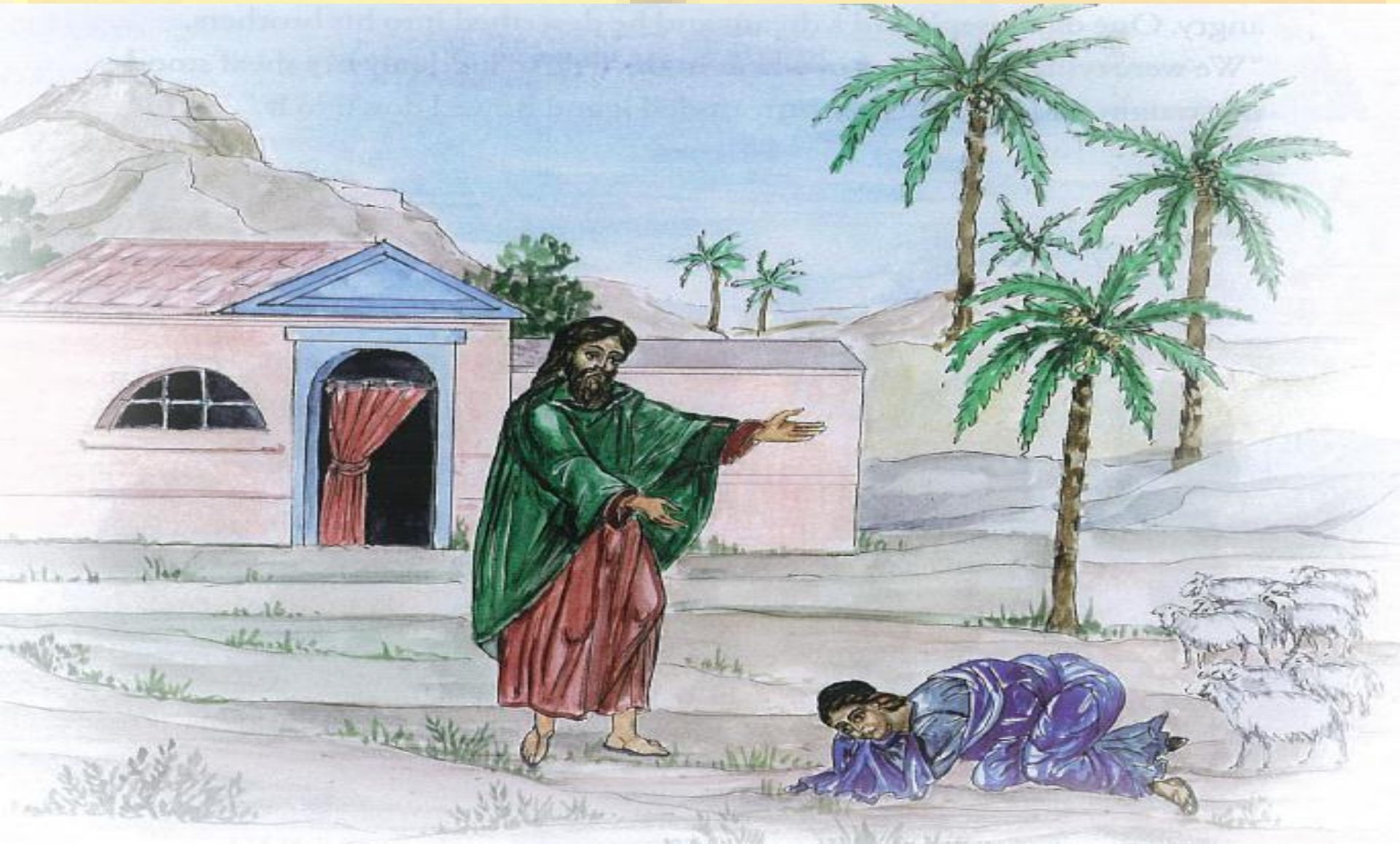
Jacob's name was changed to Israel, which means "God prevails."

The man who wrestled with Jacob was the Son of God, who appeared to him as a weak man.

Together with his family, he continued the journey, but from then on he walked with a limp because of his injured hip. Esau approached with four hundred men. When Jacob saw him, he placed the servants with their children at the front, then Leah with her children, and then Rachel with Joseph.



Jacob went to the front and bowed down to the ground seven times before approaching his brother.



Then Esau ran to meet him and they embraced. They both cried with joy. Esau was no longer angry with Jacob, and after all these years, Jacob was back in his homeland together with his family.



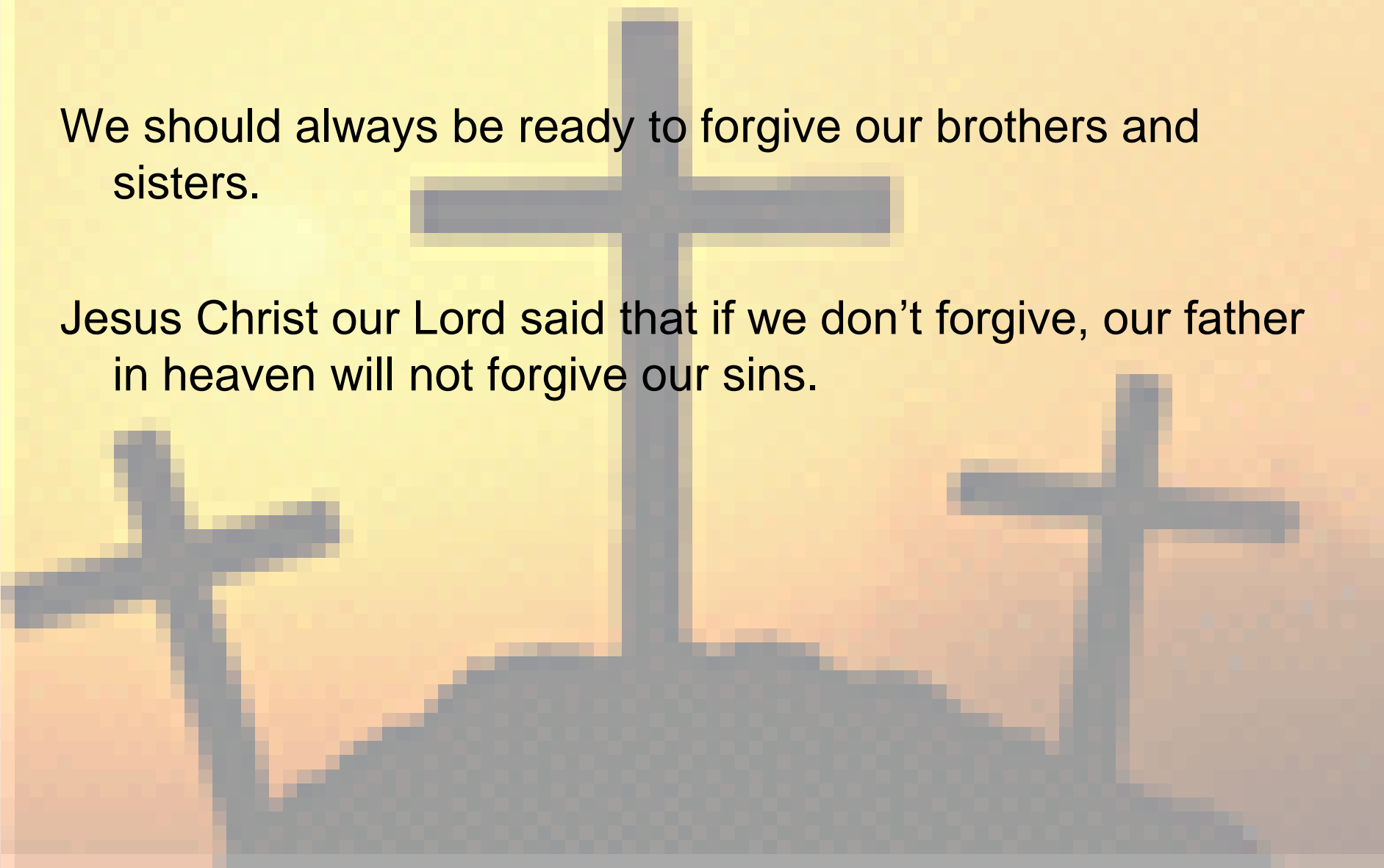
Rachel and Jacob had another son named Benjamin. Rachel died during childbirth and Jacob was very sad. However, he had her two sons, Joseph and Benjamin, whom he dearly loved because they reminded him of Rachel. Israel had twelve sons in all.



Conclusion

We should always be ready to forgive our brothers and sisters.

Jesus Christ our Lord said that if we don't forgive, our father in heaven will not forgive our sins.



Movie Clip

Show a short movie clip about the story, if available.



Questions

1. Whom did Jacob wanted to marry?
2. What did Jacob offer Laban to marry Rachel?
3. How many more years did Jacob had to work to marry Rachel?
4. Why was Laban and his sons jealous of Jacob?
5. Why didn't Laban attack Jacob after his escape?
6. What did Jacob do when he approached his home?
7. Who wrestled Jacob all night?
8. What did the man do to Jacob at the end?
9. What did Jacob ask the man when he asked to leave?
10. Jacob's name changed to _____ which means _____
11. Did Jacob and Esau fight when they see each other again?

The End

Next Week

We will learn about the birth of Moses.



3 things we all can do to strengthen our relationship with God

1. Read the Holy Bible daily preferably when we get up in the morning. 5 minutes to start.
2. Take Holy Communion regularly.
3. Remember God throughout the day. We can repeat short prayer such as “Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on me.”

JESUS CHRIST

- “For there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12)



Any question?

Close with prayer.

