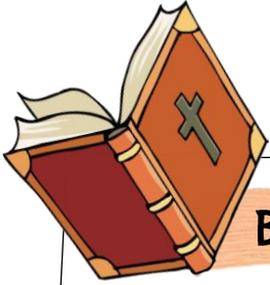


# Together @ Home

Lectionary Edition  
Sunday 26<sup>h</sup> April  
Eighth Sunday after  
Pentecost



Here are some activities you could do together as a family, begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.

## Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together, the story of Jacob being tricked.

You can find it in your Bible in:  
**Genesis 29 v 15–29**

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your group.

## The other passages we will be thinking about at church this week are:

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b or Psalm 128 1  
Kings 3:5-12 and Psalm 119:129-136  
Romans 8:26-39  
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

## A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for the story of Jacob and his love for Rachel. Help us to be patient like Jacob and to be willing to work hard for the things that are important.

Help us to forgive those who treat us badly and to demonstrate your love and forgiveness to others.

We pray for those who are being kept from their loved ones by the pandemic that they would find ways to connect and share their love with one another.

Amen

## Discussion

### A question for adults to ask children

*How long did Jacob have to work and wait to marry Rachel?*

Jacob worked for Laban for seven years so that he could marry Rachel but then he was tricked into marrying Rachel's older sister Leah. Then Jacob waited and worked another seven years to marry Rachel.

Fourteen years is a long time to wait for something, Jacob and Rachel really loved each other. They would have needed to be patient, longsuffering, showing perseverance and forgiveness to Rachel's father for what he had done.

### A question for children to ask adults

*What is the longest you have ever had to wait for something?*

## Family Activity 1

You will need: Cushions and a timer

Jacob was patient and focussed, he was willing to wait a long time to marry Rachel, but he kept his eyes fixed on his goal and persevered.

Play a balancing game, everybody must balance on one leg with a cushion balanced on their head. See who can stay balanced for the longest. You might find that keeping your eyes on a fixed point will help you to concentrate.

If you are finding it too easy add more cushions or even cuddly toys to the pile on your head.

How steady and patient can you be? Can you persevere and keep going for the longest?



## A verse to remember

### Romans 8 v 38–39

Yes, I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor ruling spirits, nothing now, nothing in the future, no powers, nothing above us, nothing below us, nor anything else in the whole world will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.



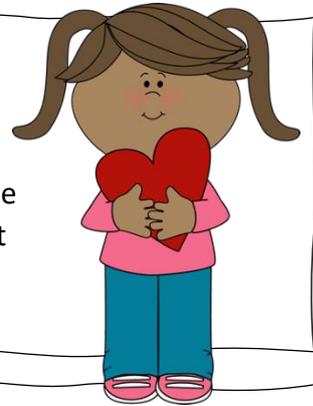
Jacob must have felt so disheartened when he discovered he had been tricked, but he persevered because of how much he loved Rachel. God's love for us is one that perseveres, nothing can get between us and the love of God that was demonstrated through Jesus.

Try to learn this verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week.

## Family Activity 2

You will need: paper/card, pens, craft materials

Why wait till Valentines day to tell somebody you love them? Create a card or write a letter to tell somebody else in your family how much you love them. Don't forget to tell them some of the things about them that you love the most.



## Active Prayer

Today's story teaches us a good lesson about Perseverance – Jacob was willing to keep working for another seven years so that he could marry Rachel. The Bible tells us that we should persevere in prayer and not give up, like the widow that Jesus spoke about in Luke 18.

This week why not pick somebody to persevere in prayer for. Complete this head to toe prayer activity every day for a week focussing on just one person.

### Put your hands on your head

Pray for their mind that they would know God and learn more about Him today.

### Put your hands on your heart

Pray that they would know God's love in their heart and love others today.

### Put your hands on your feet

Pray that God would guide their steps today and be with them wherever they go.

### Stretch up as high as you can

Pray that they would grow in faith today.

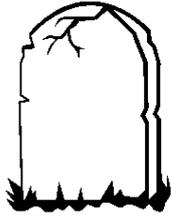
### Stretch out as wide you can

Pray that they would be a blessing to all those around them.



A colouring page you could print and colour together

Yes, I am sure that neither



death, nor life,



nor angels, nor ruling spirits,  
nothing now,

nothing in the future,

no powers, nothing above  
us, nothing below us,

nor anything else  
in the whole world



will ever be able to separate  
us from the love of God that  
is in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Romans 8 v 38-39



# Puzzle Sheet

Which bride is which?  
Can you match the  
statements to the  
correct bride?

**Leah**

I was the younger sister.  
*Colour my roses red*

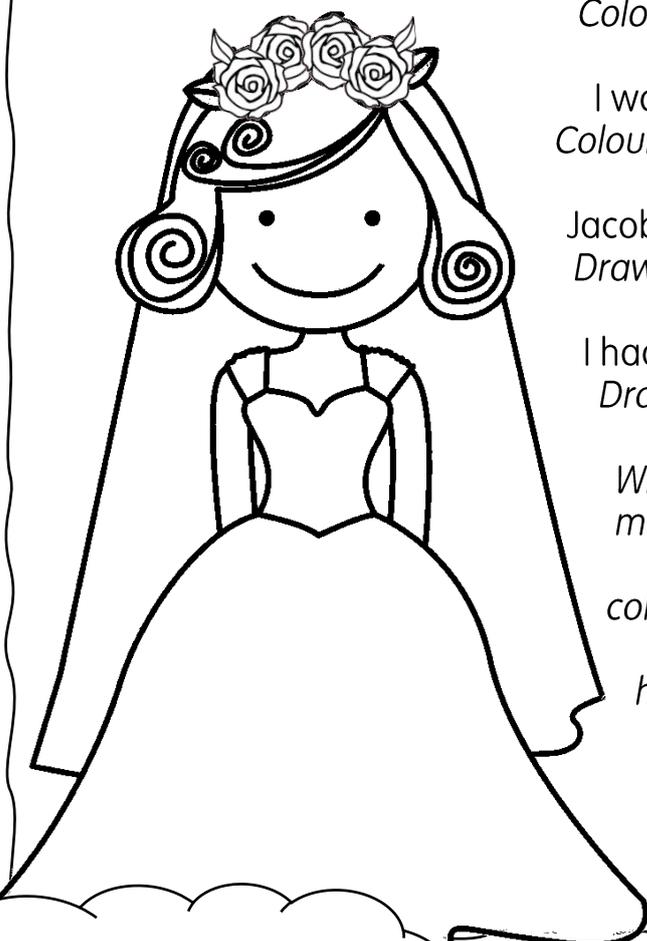
I was married first  
*Colour my roses yellow*

Jacob loved me most  
*Draw me a necklace*

I had poor eyesight  
*Draw me glasses*

*When you have  
matched all the  
statements  
colour the rest of  
the picture  
however you  
would like.*

**Rachel**



Which path should  
Jacob take to find the  
bride he wanted to  
marry?



a.

b.

c.

