

There were two brothers, Esau and Jacob: *pick up string with each pointer finger.*

The brothers each had their interest, one for the outdoors and the other for the indoors, but they were connected to one family, the family of Isaac and Rebecca: *take the thumbs and pick up the correct strings.*

Esau was close to Isaac and Jacob was close to Rebecca: *take each pinkie to pick up the correct string for these two relationships.*

One day when Esau was feeling down (*place one pointer down into the correct hole under the strings*) he gave away his inheritance to his younger brother for some stew (a meal).

Then, with Rebecca's encouragement, Jacob went undercover (*place the other pointer down into the correct hold under the strings*) and dressed up like his brother, tricking Isaac into giving blessing.

When Esau and Isaac found out about the trick, everything turned upside down. *Let all the strings come off the fingers with the pointers still holding their position.*

The family was divided. *(place the fingers from each hand into the separate hole with their pointer and hold all the strings loosely with palms facing up.*

Jacob moved far away. For the next 20 years Jacob wondered if his brother would ever forgive him. When it was time to go back home, Jacob had God's promise, but he was afraid to face his brother again. He came closer and closer to Esau and his 400 men. What would Esau do?

Start pulling the strings slowly. Jacob sent Esau gifts. He bowed low to the ground to show respect and a humble heart. **At this point you can stop and say, "Let's find out in today's Bible lesson." Then at the end of the lesson, finish the string demonstration.**

God kept His promise and Esau ran to his brother with open arms and welcomed him: *Pull the strings fully open as a gate opening.*

This is how God receives us when we come to Him with a humble heart for forgiveness because of what Jesus did on the cross for us and coming back to life. We are accepted in the Redeemer. God removes the old and makes us new. (Word-up: "God can make me new.")