**SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON PLAN FOR JULY 12**

**Note to parents: We are asking the parents or older siblings to guide the younger children through with this lesson script. Before the start, if possible, print “**[**Birth Certificate**](https://sermons4kids.com/my-birth-certificate-handout)**”. If you are not able to print, scroll down below to see the form Birth Certificate and make a version of the form. If you have stickers, allow the younger children to decorate their birth certificate with stickers. They can also trace around their hands to make handprints on the margins of their birth certificates.**

**Theme: “Take care of your birthright.”**

**Memory Verse for older children:**

**“When we cry, “Abba! Father! It is that very spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs…of God” Romans 8: 15b-16**

**Text for older children**

**Genesis 25:21-34**

(NB **Most** of the following script is taken directly from <https://sermons4kids.com/esau_sells_his_birthright.htm>)

Script:

In today’s Bible lesson, we’re learning about the surprising story of a man named Esau. Esau was a twin, and he made a really poor choice that affected his entire life. Why? All because he was hungry! But before we dive in, let’s talk about an important piece of Esau’s story. It’s something called “birthright.”

(*Invite your children to share their ideas about what a birthright is.)*

Your birthright is what you’re born with or born into. It is a privilege or right you are entitled to when you were born. Some things that are considered a birthright are your family’s name and the citizenship you were born with. Your birthright is a big deal—it represents what you can claim as yours in the world.

If you were born during Bible times—and even in some cultures today—and you were born first, you might have a more valuable birthright than your younger siblings.

(*Hand a “*[*Birth Certificate*](https://sermons4kids.com/my-birth-certificate-handout)*” and a marker to each child*.)

We’re going to think about your birthright now. As we talk, you’ll fill out more and more of your Birth Certificate. For starters, you have a title. If you are a girl your title is “Princess” and if you are a boy your title is “Prince”. So fill in your title and then write your first, middle, and last name on your certificate. (*Allow time, and help write if necessary*.)

Your name is an important birthright. No one can take away your name unless you make that choice.

There is a story in the bible found in the book of Genesis where a man called Isaac and his wife Rebekah had twin boys called Essau and Jacob. Esau was born first. Jacob was born holding onto his brother’s heel.

Now take a look at your birth certificate. Write your birth date. *(Allow time.)* Now, think about your birth order. Were you born first like Esau, second like Jacob, or somewhere else in line? List that on your certificate. (*Allow time.)*

What things are part of your birthright? What is your gender? Do you have parents, aunts or grandparents etc? What country was your mother or father born in? Do you have the opportunity to go to school? Does your family go to church? List a couple of those things on your birth certificate. *(Allow time. The children can fill out things like – I am a girl/boy; I am grandchild; I have a mother; I am Jamaican. I can go to school to learn. My family is a Christian family etc.)*

What skills and talents do you have? *(Parents – ask questions that you know your children are good at or like to do eg. Can you run fast or draw well? Then help them to write a few things.)*

Now let’s talk about your title. You are a Prince/ss because you are a child of a Heavenly King. That makes you Royalty and it means you are very important! Like all Royalty, you were born for great purpose! Try to always remember this.

Let’s go back to the story of Esau and Jacob in the bible. Esau was born first. In the bible days that meant that he would inherit most of the things his parents had, including property, houses, money, and the farm animals (livestock). But then, something happened.

One day, Esau came in from the fields where he’d been hunting. He was very hungry. You know what that’s like! Jacob was cooking up a tasty stew and bread when Esau came in, and it must have smelled wonderful. Esau naturally wanted some of the tasty food.

Jacob, who was born second, whose birthright was much smaller than his brother’s, said, “I’ll give you this food if you sell me your birthright.”

Esau didn’t even hesitate. He said, “I’m so hungry I’ll die; what good is my birthright?” And he agreed to sell his birthright to his brother right then for a bowl of stew, bread, and a drink.

Now, take another look at your birth certificate. Would you trade any of those things for one meal? *(Allow children to respond*.)

Today your birthright might look a little different than Jacob’s and Esau’s but it is still important. The fact that you can go to church or school is your birthright. The fact that you have family or that you are a citizen of a country at birth is your birthright. Most importantly is that you have great purpose and you are royalty because you are a child of God. You must not be careless with your birthright and you should do your best to make sure that no one takes away your rights. Do not let anybody or anything steal your importance!

Prayer: Thank you Lord that I have a birthright. I am Jamaican (insert alternative), my surname is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I can go to church and to school. Thank you that I am a child of God which means I am royalty and that You have a purpose for my life and a place for me in Heaven. Help me Lord not to be careless with my birthright. Amen

You can watch the bible story of Essau and Jacob here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGs1WfRKIoM>

