

## Lesson Plan 9

# Isaac Does *What Is Right*

**Genesis 26:12–33**

**Memory Verse**

“And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise”  
(Luke 6:31)

**Teacher’s Objective**

At the end of the session, the students should be able to:

**Define** in their own words Philistine and Herdsmen

**Locate** on a map *Gerar* and *Gaza*

**Describe** how they please God when they treat others the way they would like to be treated

**Express** in their own way the example of Isaac and how they will obey the memory verse

**Materials Needed**

See “Teaching Activities” for specific activities

## Teacher’s Bible Study

**T**he lesson for this Sabbath will focus in on Isaac. Even though Isaac was treated wrongfully, he did not retaliate or attack those who mistreated him. This is an opportunity for your students to see an Old Testament character following a

**In preparation for this lesson, read the following scriptures:**

- |    |                  |                          |
|----|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | Genesis 25:1–18  | The death of Abraham     |
| 2. | Genesis 25:19–34 | The generations of Isaac |
| 3. | Genesis 26:1–16  | Isaac and the Covenant   |
| 4. | Genesis 26:12–33 | Isaac does not retaliate |
| 5. | 2 Samuel 9       | David’s example of       |

Christian principle.

To be a Christian, we must follow Jesus Christ. The early disciples of Jesus strove to imitate His actions, teachings, and way of life. It was for this reason they were labeled as “Christians” (that is, followers of Christ) by nonbelievers to whom the disciples’ way of life was obvious (Acts 11:26). During the time of the early New Testament apostolic Church, the term “Christian” was certainly in every way accurate—for the disciples were indeed imitators and followers of the person and teachings of Jesus Christ.

This lesson is a wonderful opportunity to teach your students how to treat others in a world that is not always “fair.” Christians do not live in this world by themselves. They are just one segment of humanity, and are surrounded by persons of other religions, backgrounds, nationalities, and creeds. In fact, all humans must face the reality that they live in a world consisting of other humans who are to a greater or lesser degree different from themselves. The Christian fully recognizes this reality and strives to live in harmony and peace with all men everywhere.

Some basic guidelines for how a Christian should respond to the world around him are set by the apostle Paul when he says that the true believer must live in the world (i.e., function within the society in which he finds himself) but not be a part of those practices, actions or attitudes that are contrary to God’s way of life (I

## Presenting the Bible Story

The exact location of Gerar is unknown.

It was near the Mediterranean Sea, in the general area of the Philistine city of Gaza

### Genesis 26:12–22

During these times, it was a act of war when enemies came and filled up a well with dirt

Herdsmen were men who were hired to tend flocks of cattle, sheep or goats. They were responsible for finding food and water for the flocks

### Genesis 26:23–25

### Genesis 26:26–33

Introduce  
Memory Verse

**A**fter Isaac's mother Sarah died Abraham arranged for his chief servant to find a bride for Isaac. Eliezer, the chief servant, went to Haran. He returned with Rebekah. Isaac and Rebekah were married. For twenty years they had hoped for a child, but none had been given. Then Rebekah gave birth to twins, Jacob and Esau. When Jacob and Esau were grown men, Isaac moved his family to Gerar. He did this because there was not enough food in Canaan.

The crops that Isaac planted flourished. He became rich. When he became rich, the Philistines became envious of him. Envious means jealous. The Philistines were people who lived along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. They were enemies of the Israelites and fought many battles with them during the time of the book of Judges. They did not like it that Isaac had more than them. Usually, when people are jealous they do what is wrong. The jealous Philistines filled Isaac's wells with dirt. Abraham, Isaac's father, had a dispute with the Philistines over a well (Genesis 21:25,30). God's blessing on Isaac could not be hindered by the Philistines. Isaac continued to reopen the dirt filled wells. Even though Isaac was stronger than the Philistines, he chose not to fight them. He decided to go his way and dig a well elsewhere, rather than have strife and bloodshed.

Isaac went to the Valley of Gerar and searched for water. Remember, digging a well during Isaac's time was done by hand, it was very hard work. Machines, as we have today, were not available. It is interesting to note that Abraham, as well, had lived in Gerar, and that both Abraham and Isaac had lied to Abimelech that their wives were their sisters. While in the Valley of Gerar, Isaac and his servants dug three wells. The Gerarites said that two of the three wells belonged to them. The first one was *Esek* which means dispute, the second was *Sitnah* which means opposition. Both of these names reflect the conflict there was over the wells. The third well was *Rehoboth* which means room. Isaac said, "For now the Lord has made room for us and we shall be fruitful in the land."

Isaac traveled to Beersheba. While there, God appeared to him. God confirmed once again the Abrahamic Covenant. Read

verses 23 and 24. Isaac then responded to God, just as his father had: He built an altar to God.

The conflict over the wells had come to an end. Abimelech came to visit Isaac. Isaac was curious as to *why*. Why would they want to visit Isaac, someone they hated and sent away? Read verse 27. Abimelech wanted to make a treaty with Isaac. Abimelech and those with him acknowledged to Isaac that they could see that the Lord was with him. Isaac agreed to make the oath and named the well there Shibah which means (seven). Abraham had made a similar treaty with another Abimelech (Genesis 21:24–31) when he named the city Bersheba. Abimelech did not want to be an enemy of Isaac's. He could see that Isaac was "blessed of the Lord."

Isaac had his servants prepare a feast. They ate together and then departed in peace. God gave Isaac the strength to do what was right. No matter how much conflict there was with them, Isaac did not lash out against his enemies. He treated the men with kindness, and let them have what was rightfully his. He treated them as he would like to be treated. In addition to learning this lesson, the men recognized that Isaac was indeed the seed of Abraham, and if they were to share in the blessing they would have to seek to live in peace with him.

## Art and Activities

Explore  
the following  
questions with  
your students:

Always close your  
class with prayer

## Teaching Activities

### Young Children

Provide copies of Activity Page for your students.

### Older Children

Provide copies of Activity Page for your students.

## Explore the Subject

1. The obedience of one man brought blessings to all of his descendants. Who was that man? Abraham.

2. What were the Abrahamic promises given to Isaac?

- (a.) God's presence
- (b.) God's blessing
- (c.) Possession of the land
- (d.) Posterity as numerous as the stars

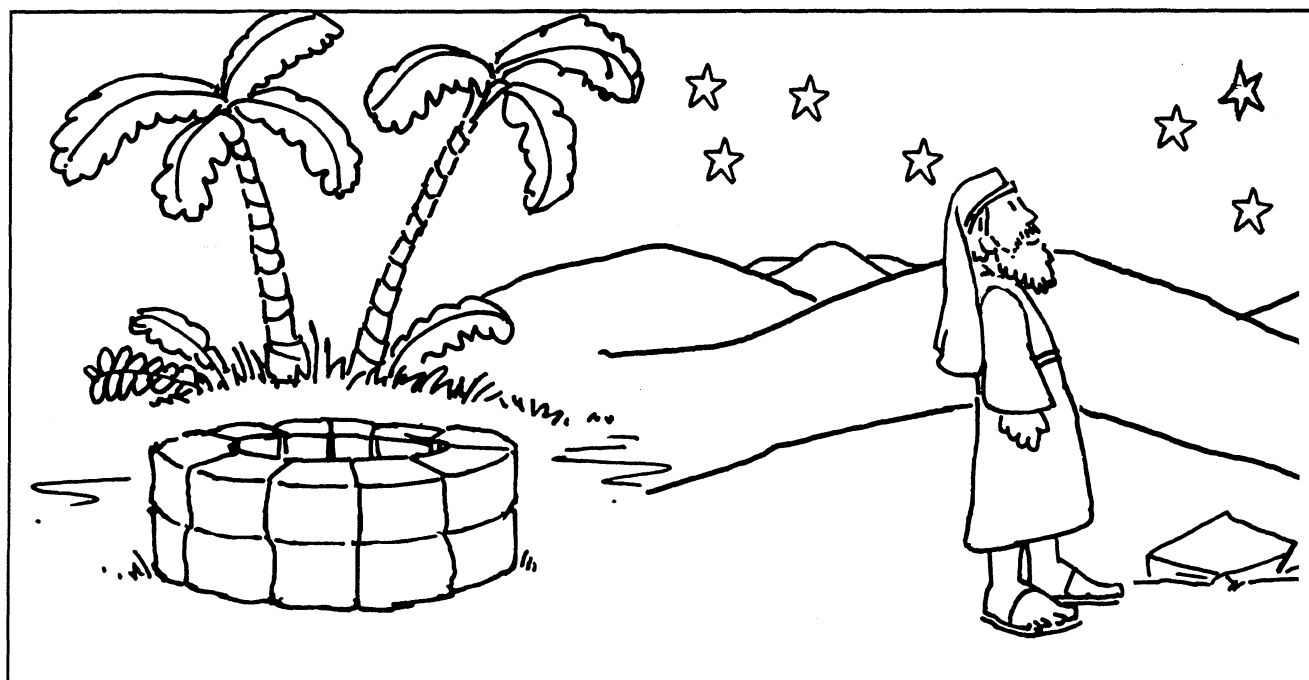
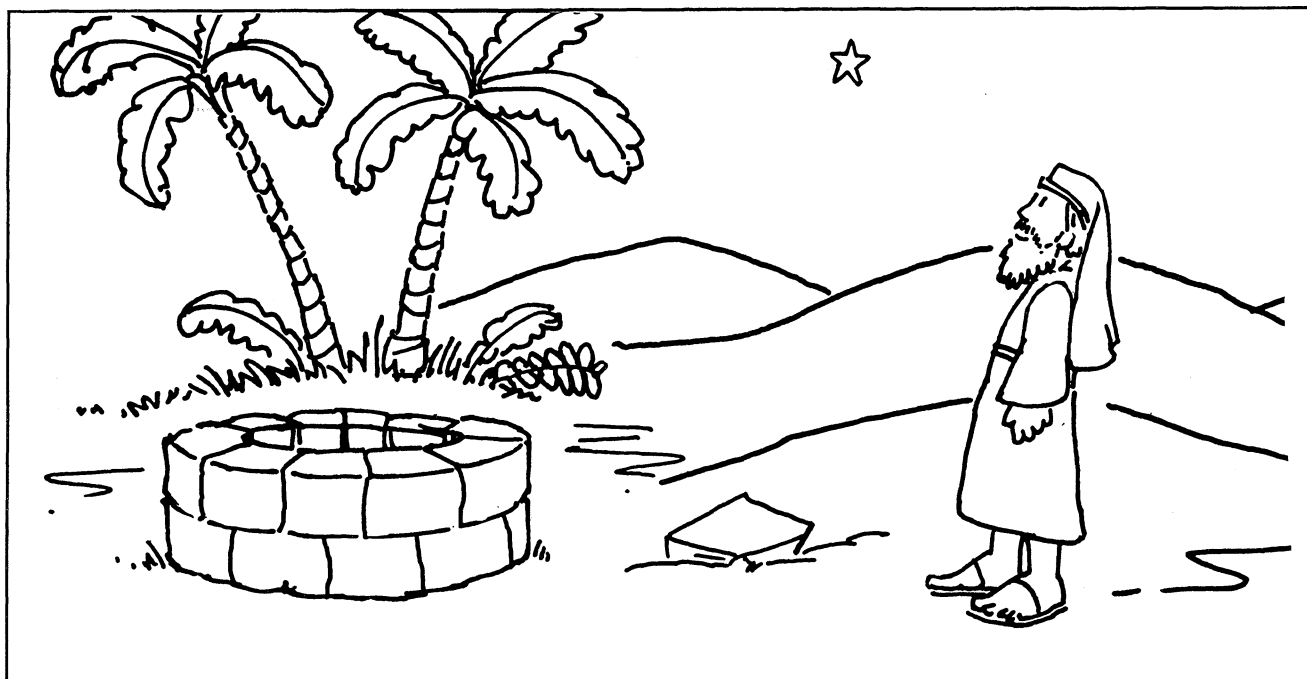
3. Where was Isaac when God appeared to him and recon-

# Activity Page

## Blessings To Isaac

God promised many blessing to Isaac, just as he did to Abraham

Circle 10 things different in the bottom picture.



# Activity Page

## The Covenant with Isaac

Isaac was in Gerar, the land of the Philistines. God repeated the promised to Isaac that He had made to his father Abraham.

### What Did God promise?

88 98 8 91 55 22 98 1 55 88 0 8 22 43 ... 8 22 43 55

34 55 0 0 21 0 65 88 88 91 46 5. Isaac did as God said.

55 88 8 8 3 79 0 8 22 98 65 43 3 7 46 79 88 8 22 43

7 65 8 79 65 43 8 9 7 65 8 98 1 8 7 87 65 88 98.

1 65 21 65 3 8 6 65 87 65 7 91 34 65 8 0 98 1 91.

### The Philistines became envious of Isaac

98 1 65 91 12 55 0 0 65 43 1 55 88 34 65 0 0 88

34 55 98 1 43 55 8 98 88 46 1 65 1 8 43 98 46

6 46 87 65 1 55 88 98 65 22 98 88.

Use this code to find the answers:

- |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 8=A  | 43=D | 9=G  | 4=J  | 6=M  | 79=P | 88=S | 87=V | 91=Y  |
| 21=B | 65=E | 1=H  | 60=K | 22=N | 10=Q | 98=T | 34=W | 100=Z |
| 3=C  | 12=F | 55=I | 0=L  | 46=O | 7=R  | 5=U  | 45=X |       |

# Activity Page

## Isaac Does What Is Right Genesis 26:12-33

Read the scriptures and find the hidden words within the puzzle below.

I	S	R	A	E	L	I	T	E	S
E	S	E	K	S	I	T	N	A	H
J	E	H	F	V	W	E	L	L	O
D	L	O	C	A	A	U	V	E	W
G	B	B	A	L	T	A	R	T	C
N	O	O	A	L	E	H	T	A	O
O	R	T	S	E	R	T	E	H	V
I	N	H	I	Y	S	P	S	R	E
T	R	F	S	I	E	D	I	G	N
C	W	O	R	D	S	J	M	H	A
E	K	H	A	J	A	C	O	B	N
L	C	A	E	S	U	A	R	N	T
E	L	B	L	O	V	E	P	D	Z

- |        |          |        |          |            |      |
|--------|----------|--------|----------|------------|------|
| WELL   | COVENANT | CHRIST | LOVE     | ELECTION   | DIG  |
| OATH   | ISRAEL   | HATE   | ISAAC    | ISRAELITES | ESEK |
| ESAU   | OLD      | FATHER | PROMISE  | BLESS      |      |
| SITNAH | ALTAR    | JACOB  | REHOBOTH | SHOW       |      |
| WATER  | ELECT    | WORD   | VALLEY   | BORN       |      |

