



The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

Department of Christian Education

MAKING DISCIPLES through "events that FORM and TRANSFORM"



Sunday School Lessons Unit Three "God Blesses and Re-Creates Regardless" November 2018

In Genesis, the book of beginnings, God is revealed as the Creator, Sustainer, Judge, and Redeemer, who brought all things into being. The fall quarter surveys the Book of Genesis in developing sessions on God's creation of the universe, earth, and people. It also details how God continues to co-labor with sinful humanity in reconciling and re-creating order in all things.

Unit III, "God Blesses and Re-Creates Regardless," has four sessions. Session One explores how God blessed humble Isaac in enemy territory. Sessions Two through Four consider how Jacob deceitfully obtained the blessing God had already destined for him, later established a right relationship with God, and finally was blessed by God to marry and produce children with the wife he loved and for whom he long labored.

Dr. Carmichael Crutchfield
General Secretary



Obstacles and loss often block our efforts to accomplish something worthwhile. How can we overcome these setbacks in order to live lives that count for good? God intervened to help Jacob overcome seeming defeat by not only gaining many possessions but also escaping the wrath of a selfish and deceptive father-in-law.

Goal for the Learners

- ✓ To study how God provided for Jacob and his family.
- ✓ To identify with Jacob's stormy relationship with his father-in-law.
- ✓ To pray for God's intervention in our own times of crisis.

Lesson Challenges for the Week

- Compare and contrast the situation of Jacob's family (living in a foreign land and not being free to leave) and the situation of Moses and the Hebrew people in Egypt (Exodus 1:1-8).
- Use a concordance, Bible dictionary, or other tools to research what the Bible says about wealth and poverty. In this context, what can we say about the financial blessings God pours out on Jacob (and Laban!) in this passage?
- Research polygamy and note the places it is practiced in the world. Reflect on how this practice creates challenges for new converts.

We are providing these notes from the Committee on Uniform Series that prepares associated Sunday School lesson outlines long in advance of their usage. Included in this Guide are thoughts that are reflected in the Lesson Development Guide for writers of Sunday school lessons and the recommended commentary of the Department of Christian Education, The New International Lesson Annual published by Abingdon Press Nashville, Tennessee. Send an email to: sundayschool@thecmecchurchced.org to receive this guide electronically each week.

