

# 7.3 Genesis 33-37

Use in conjunction with the Student Manual

Student Name:

Read Genesis 33: 1-11 and imagine experiencing the events recorded from the perspectives of both Esau and Jacob. Based on how you imagined this reunion, ponder your responses to the following questions:

What do you think each brother thought and felt as they approached each other?

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What did each brother do to restore peace to this relationship?

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According to these verses, what did Esau do to show that he had overcome his hatred and forgiven Jacob?

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1. a. What principle can we learn from Jacob's example about what we can do to restore peace in troubled relationships?

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b. When have you seen peace restored to a relationship because you or someone else made sincere efforts to settle a conflict?

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c. What helped you or the other person involved in settling the conflict overcome hatred and forgive others?

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On a separate piece of paper or in your personal journal, write a goal of what you can do to overcome or help someone else overcome hatred or resentment, forgive another person, or seek to restore peace to the relationship.

What would you do to prepare to participate in a soccer game? What clothing would you wear? How would your preparation and clothing be different from your preparation and clothing for attending your Sunday Church meetings? Why?

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Read Genesis 35:1, looking for where God commanded Jacob to travel in order to worship Him.

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Read Genesis 35:2, what did Jacob ask his people to do to prepare to worship the Lord in Bethel.

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How do you think putting away such strange gods, being clean, and changing their garments would help Jacob and his people prepare to worship the Lord in Bethel?

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Read Genesis 35:9, looking for what happened in Bethel.

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2. a. The members of Jacob's household were commanded to put away strange gods, cleanse themselves, and change their garments as they prepared to worship the Lord. What would be similar ways we can prepare to worship the Lord in our day?

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b. Why do you think we should make special preparations to worship the Lord?

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c. What have you experienced when you have made a special effort to prepare yourself to worship the Lord?

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Think of the various ways a person might feel if a sibling or close friend received an important award, was selected for an athletic team or music ensemble, or performed the best in his or her class on an exam. Why do you think someone might respond with hatred or envy?

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Read Genesis 37:1–4, looking for how Jacob treated his son Joseph and how Joseph’s brothers reacted.

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Read Genesis 37:5–11, and write the verse numbers that correspond to that dream of Joseph.

Joseph’s dream of the sheaves

Joseph’s dream of the sun, the moon, and the stars

Notice in verses 8 and 11 how Joseph’s brothers reacted to his dreams.  
What does it mean to envy someone?

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Read Genesis 37:23–28, looking for what Joseph’s brothers did with him.

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3. a. What have you seen hatred and envy lead people to do in our day?

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b. When others have possessions, talents, or attention that we would like to have, how can we avoid feelings of hatred and envy toward them?

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4. Additional questions, thoughts, and insights I would like share with my teacher:

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