

4. The twins who became enemies

Isaac and Rebekah had twins. The two boys were born on the same day, and they named the oldest one Esau and the younger one Jacob. They were very different. Esau was a strong, hairy man who liked to go out hunting. Jacob was a quiet man who liked to stay at home. Isaac liked Esau, but Rebekah liked Jacob. When Isaac was very old and his eyes were very weak, he called Esau and told him, “My son, go and hunt some wild game and bring me some of the meat to eat. I want to pray that God will bless you before I die.”

When Rebekah heard this, she quickly went and prepared some meat with special spices so that it tasted just like game. She also took some of Esau’s clothes and when Jacob put them on he smelled just like Esau. Then she took some goatskins and tied them to Jacob’s arms and neck so that it feels as hairy as Esau. Jacob then quickly went to his father and pretended to be Esau. Isaac tasted some of the meat. It tasted just like game. When he smelled Jacob’s clothes, it smelled just like Esau. He touched the arms and neck of Jacob. It felt just like Esau. Isaac then blessed Jacob.

When Esau later came home with some food, Isaac was very shocked and confused. He had blessed the wrong son. Esau was very angry when he heard that his brother took his blessing. But God was with Jacob. God changed Jacob’s heart and made him very successful. God also gave Jacob a new name. Do you know what that name is?

Questions to discuss

1. Who was the older brother, Jacob or Esau?
2. Why was Isaac so upset when he realised that he blessed Jacob?
ทำไมอิสอัคไม่สบายใจเมื่อเขารู้ตัวว่าเขาให้พรผิดคน
3. Why did God bless Jacob?

Vocabulary

twins	ฝาแฝด	This is my twin brother.
hairy	ที่มีขนดก	Rambutan feels hairy.
to hunt	ล่าสัตว์	The farmer went out to hunt crocodiles.
game	เนื้อกวาง	In some special restaurants you can order game.
to bless	อวยพร	May God bless you.
spices	เครื่องเทศ	If you want to make a pizza you have to use the right spices.
to taste	ได้รส	Here, taste some of this durian.
to smell	ได้กลิ่น	Please excuse the bad smell. They are fixing the toilet.
to feel	สัมผัส	An egg feels smooth.
confused	งง	He speaks so fast it confuses me.
successful	ที่ประสบความสำเร็จ	Somkit is a successful businessman.



ขอพระเจ้าประทานชนชาติทั้งหลายรับใช้เจ้า
ขอพระเจ้าอวยพรผู้รับใช้เจ้า
และสาปแช่งผู้แข่งเจ้า