

JACOB'S DECEPTION

Lesson 11, Genesis 27:5-10, 18, 19, 21-29, NIV

HOW NOT TO BE SCAMMED

Jacob pulled a fast one on his father, Isaac, and deceived him. Here are some of the common scams or deceptions we must beware of today.

Identity theft: Someone wrongfully uses another person's personal data fraudulently. This can involve bank accounts, credit cards, medical expenses, or tax returns.

Fake charities: Instead of helping people in need, these fakes keep the money for themselves. Some crooks try to fool people using names that are similar to those of legitimate charities.

Have you ever been the victim of a scam? How did it turn out?

Did you ever use any of the following in order to protect yourself from being deceived?

- **Know who you're dealing with.** Call the Better Business Bureau or consumer protection agency to see if the organization is credible.
- **Guard your personal information.** Don't provide your credit card or bank account number unless you are paying for something and know the organization is valid.
- **Be cautious about unsolicited e-mails.**
- **Don't believe promises of easy money.**
- **Fully understand every offer.**
- **Check your credit reports regularly.**

DECEPTIVE EXCUSES

Look at the common deceptive excuses below. Suggest polite but truthful replacement answers.

Deceptive Excuse	Truthful Response
1. "I was late because of traffic."	
2. "I'd love to go to the baseball game, but I've got something else planned."	
3. "I didn't think you'd mind if I borrowed your sweater without asking."	
4. "That dent was there when we picked up the car."	
5. "I'm too full to eat another bite."	