

“A Rock and a Hard Place” • Genesis 27:1–17
Mt. Lassen Community Church • October 19, 2025

Intro • *There was a time when Isaac and Rebekah were passionate in their marriage (see Genesis 26:8–10). By chapter 27, they’ve “lost that loving feeling” (to quote the Righteous Brothers). What are some main reasons couples drift apart? How can a couple keep their marriage intact over time?*

Review Jacob & Esau

Ch 25 • Esau despises his birthright, selling it to Jacob for a bowl of stew

26:34–35 • Esau marries two Canaanite women, bringing grief to his parents

27:46 • Rebekah says she is “weary of life” because of Esau’s wives

Big Idea • Esau rejecting his birthright for a bowl of stew is symbolic of rejecting God for his own “gods”—his flesh and his independence

Esau’s Empty Tears • When Jacob steals the blessing, securing his birthright, Esau begs in tears for a blessing, but there is no real repentance in his heart; he harbors bitterness and murderous hatred toward his brother

Today’s Study • *What is going on with Rebekah and Isaac in this story???*

Genesis 27:1–4 • Isaac tells Esau to hunt for game and prepare a savory meal so he can bless him properly. Problems →

1 • God has already declared _____ (25:23)

2 • Isaac and Rebekah have different _____ for their family

3 • Isaac and Rebekah are playing _____ ; a recipe for disaster

4 • Isaac has grown _____ to the Spirit’s leadership in his home.

Vs 5-17 • Reading straight through, we see _____ is the instigator and the key figure in the story. Takeaways →

1 • Isaac has _____ !

Rebekah didn’t *have* to deceive Isaac (God would have worked it out to promote Jacob), but from her perspective, this was a potential disaster and she had to act.

2 • Isaac put his wife between _____ !

She was willing to risk taking Jacob’s CURSE upon herself.

Isaac should have been putting himself _____ instead of his wife.

This is what _____ for His “Bride”—the _____ !

Ephesians 5:21–33 teaches us the mysterious picture of “Marriage and the Gospel” (a recent sermon)

Marriage is a _____ of the Gospel message.

The Gospel message is the truth that _____ our marriages.

Did Jesus put His “Bride” in harms’ way? No!

Did Jesus neglect His spiritual leadership? No!

Did Jesus put His “Bride” between a rock and a hard place? No!

Example: Nabal & Abigail in 1 Samuel 25

Closing: *Let’s end with good news: the Gospel changes our hearts. & the KEY to healthy relationships is KNOWING CHRIST!*

