

## **“Jacob and Esau” (Genesis 25:19-34)**

**For the week of September 12, 2021**

**Opening Question:** Our story centers around the birth of Esau and Jacob. What have you been told about your birth? Share in your community group.

### **Read Genesis 25:19-21**

#### **Observation**

How do Isaac and Rebekah address their fertility and what does this say about them?

#### **Interpretation**

If Abraham was promised many descendants, why would God have Rebekah be barren?

What is the significance of Isaac praying for her?

#### **Application**

Give one example where you prayed diligently to God and describe how God responded. Were you surprised? Why or why not?

### **Read Genesis 25:22-26**

#### **Observation**

Summarize this passage in your own words.

#### **Interpretation**

Rebekah has a difficult pregnancy and receives a prophecy from God that explains what is going on. How does this prophecy affect the way we read the later events of this story?

How does the prophecy from God connect to this family's large role in God's redemptive work in the world?

## **Application**

How has growing up in your family affected you? Has it helped you grow closer to God? Why or why not?

## **Read Genesis 25:27-28**

### **Observation**

Describe the differences in the twins and give a brief description of the relations in the family as they grew up.

### **Interpretation**

What impressions do we get from this description?

What are your reactions to this description? Why?

What does it lead us to expect about the relationship of Esau and Jacob?

## **Application**

How has growing up in your own family affected you in your relationship with God?

Did it help you grow closer to God? Why or why not?

## **Read Genesis 25:29-34**

### **Observation**

How would you describe Esau and his personality?

How would you describe Jacob and his personality?

Who do you identify with more and why?

## **Interpretation**

What is the birthright that Jacob so desired and Esau rejected? What does the selling of the birthright reveal about Jacob and Esau, their relationship, and their relationship with their father?

What is the birthright of Jesus (read Romans 8:28-32; Colossians 1:15-20; Hebrews 1:6, 2:10-11)? How does Jesus share His birthright with us?

## **Application**

What is a way you can claim and live out your God-given birthright this week? How can your community group or others pray for you and support you in this?