

Soul Care

LASTING TRANSFORMATION & FREEDOM

Family Sin Patterns

A family sin pattern is a sin that is repeated or passed on to subsequent generations.

Exodus 20:5-6 — Blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience. We hold the power to do tremendous good and tremendous damage in the lives of our children.

Sin Patterns in Abraham's Family

Fear/Lying

- Abraham is afraid for his own safety, and lies, saying that Sarah is his sister. lies to Pharaoh and Abimelech about Sarah being his sister
- Abraham's son Isaac does the same thing, in the same town
- Isaac's son Jacob lies to steal his brother's inheritance

Favouritism/Broken Relationships

- Abraham favours Isaac over Ishmael, and Ishmael's descendants live in hostility to the nation of Israel
- Isaac favours Esau over Jacob, Esau's descendants fight against the Israelites
- Jacob favours Rachel and Joseph, Joseph's brothers sell him

Overcoming Family Sin Patterns

- Self-awareness (emotionallyhealthy.org/genogram)
- Protective measures
- Spiritual practices
- Bring it to the cross

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Appetizer

1. Review Sunday's message. What stood out to you? What challenged you? Are there any lingering questions?
2. Have you ever had the sudden realization that a certain action phrase, or behaviour of yours is something your parents do/did?

Entree

1. Read **Exodus 20:5-6**
 - a. What do you make of this passage?
 - b. Notice the length of God's blessing vs. the length of his punishment. What does this tell you?
2. In what ways are you like your mom or dad?
3. What do you want your children to experience in their faith that you never did, or are just starting to learn?

Dessert

Break into groups of 3-5 and discuss the following questions with each other.

1. Are there family sin patterns you know of that you have to protect yourself against?
2. What can you do this week to start breaking the patterns of sin?
3. What can you do this week to start creating patterns of blessing?

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