

BLESSING OF GOD OR BOWL OF SOUP? (Genesis 25:31-33)

The birthright was essentially the blessing of God given to the firstborn (oldest) son that carried with it both physical and spiritual blessings. It was bigger than just the person receiving it. It was for others too!

Esau chooses to give up the blessing of God for a bowl of soup.

This is choosing now over later; choosing himself at the expense of others.

This choosing today over tomorrow; choosing the immediate over the ultimate.

Consider the story that could have been told and recorded for future generations...

"The God of Abraham, Isaac and Esau..."

THE SOBERING CONCLUSION (Genesis 25:34)

What will be bigger in our lives - our _____ of God or our _____?

Four Ways to Control Our Appetites

1. Be _____.
2. Be _____.
2. Be _____.
4. Be _____.

BECOMING OLD AND GAINING PERSPECTIVE

We have no idea what God may want to accomplish in and through our lives, and what a tragedy it would be to miss it!

The Esau Syndrome is letting unchecked _____ determine the direction of our lives.

Genesis 25:24-34

MEETING THE TWINS (Genesis 25:24-30)

Esau - older brother, covered with red hair, hunter, loved by Isaac ("Hairy")

Jacob - younger brother, quiet temperament, home body, loved by Rebekah ("Heel")

THE APPETITE

Your _____ to your appetites will determine whether you fulfill God's will for your life. We will either _____ our appetites, or they will _____ us!

Three Things About the Appetite:

1. _____ made them and _____ distorts them.
2. Appetites are never fully _____.
3. Appetites always demand _____ instead of _____.

VINTAGE: The Esau Syndrome
Genesis 25:24-34

Date: 1/28/2018

GETTING STARTED

When you hear the phrase “Sell out,” what comes to your mind and why?

SUNDAY RECAP

This week’s vintage story takes us back to the story of Jacob and Esau; two brothers who just couldn’t get along which turned into a long life lived in adversity toward each other. This week’s story centers on a choice Esau made to sell out and allow his appetite to direct his life, rather than the purposes of God. We will all be faced with choices about how to respond to our appetites. Do we want to appease our appetites by choosing what’s easy and immediate? Or, instead choose God’s will and his future for our life. God wants to accomplish more in our lives than we could ever imagine. We have no idea what God may want to accomplish in us and through our lives, our families, our jobs, our city, even the world... and we don’t want to miss it!

STUDY & SHARE

1. Consider the 3 Things about appetites shared in this week’s message. How would you define an appetite as it relates to your own life? What does that look like practically? Spiritually?
2. Read Genesis 25:27-34. Think about what prompted Esau to give away his birthright.
 - a) What might have caused Esau to make this choice?
 - b) In your life, how have you behaved like Esau from this story?
 - c) What steps can you make towards choosing God over your appetite?
3. Often, we think about the affect a decision may have on our family, friends, and coworkers. How often do we think about the affect a decision has on our relationship with God?

4. Read and reflect on 1 Peter 5:8. This passage reminds us to be sober minded and alert.
 - a) What are ways in which we can stay sober minded and alert with decisions we make that can keep us on God’s path, or derail us from it?
5. Read Philippians 4:18-20. When choosing God over immediate gratification, it must be understood that God provides all that we need in Him. What are ways we can reach out to God and redirect our needs and desires in those critical moments of decisions?

SHINE TO OTHERS

Who do you know in your life that has made choices to follow their appetite instead of God? How can you in a loving, non-judgmental way, support and encourage them to pursue the life that God has for them?

SUPPORT // PRAYER

Pray for each other to grow and see the areas in our life that fall short of God’s best. Pray that we all continue to grow together, waking up, rising, and shining... choosing God’s best over instant gratification.

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