

blessing of breaking

Small Group Discussion

Womb Wars I—The Birthright Despised

Story of Jacob Week 1: Genesis 25.19-34

Getting Started

- Grasping for things we desire (or think we need/deserve) is natural. What do you find yourself regularly yearning for?
- Is it something abstract, like freedom, contentment, or time? Or more specific, like money, technology, or a talent?

Static Questions

- **What was the passage about?**
 - Note the key details (Who, What, When, Where, Why, etc.)
 - Pay attention to the main *points* of the passage.
- **What did you learn?**
 - What did the passage reveal about God? About people?
 - Was there a promise or command or a warning?
 - What is the big idea of the passage?
 - What lessons do you see?
- **How will you apply it?**
 - How does this passage relate to your life right now?
 - What change in your thinking or behavior is needed to align with the truths in this message?
 - How should you respond based on what you learned?

From the Teaching this Morning

- Why is it so many people do not want to trust God and make faithful decisions? How do you see this in the account of Esau in this passage?

Esau was oblivious to what he had because he was preoccupied with the way he was; Jacob was occupied with obtaining what Esau had and planned to capitalize on the way Esau was. ~ Allen Ross

- How would you summarize this quote in your own words? Can you identify either a way you are preoccupied with the way you are or desiring to capitalize on someone else's weakness?
- In this passage Esau is the one who is painted to be at fault for the despisal of his birthright. Why do you think the focus is on his decision rather than Jacob's manipulation?

Application Questions

- In what ways are you trying to be self-sufficient rather than trusting and depending on God?
- In your situation, what would it look like to live a life that submits to God's plan rather than pursuing what pleases us? How can you avoid the trap of "sanctifying your own desires" in order to justify satisfying the self rather than trusting in God's promises?

