

Genesis 27 – Responding to Uncertain Times

May 17, 2020 Discussion Notes

Everyone is encouraged to bring a Bible

(Phone apps are good for reading together in the same translation. Study Bibles give help with interpretation.)



RESPONDING TO UNCERTAIN TIMES

- STOP
- BE STILL
- LISTEN



Questions:

1. In the sermon, David Gloria talked about a time as a kid when he tried to steal something. Did you ever do something similar? What happened?
2. What stood out to you about the story in Genesis 27 (in which Jacob deceives his father in order to get the blessing of the firstborn)?
3. What do you remember about the main points of the sermon? Did anything stand out to you or challenge you?
4. Read Hebrews 11:20
 - a) How can it be said that Isaac blessed Jacob “by faith” when he mistakenly thought he was actually blessing Esau? (see Proverbs 20:24)
 - b) What is faith? (see Hebrews 11:1, Galatians 5:6, and 2 Corinthians 4:18)
 - c) Now read Psalm 37:23-24. Is it comforting to realize that you don’t need to understand everything perfectly to be walking in faith?
 - d) Why do you think it says that Isaac blessed Jacob *and Esau*? Didn’t Isaac tell Esau that there was no blessing left for him? (compare Genesis 27:36-37 and Genesis 27:40)
 - e) Years later, these two brothers meet again and Esau seems to be very wealthy (see Genesis 33:9). How do you think Jacob’s blessing differed from Esau’s blessing? (see Genesis 26:2-5).
5. Read Genesis 25:21-23
 - a) If God had told Rebekah that “the older will serve the younger”, why do you think Isaac was planning on blessing Esau? (see Genesis 25:27-28).
 - b) Do you ever struggle with submitting to God’s instructions when you think you know what’s best? (see Proverbs 12:15, Matthew 7:13-14, and James 1:22)
 - c) Do you think it can ever be okay to do something wrong in order to accomplish something right (like Rebekah did)?
 - d) Can you think of anyone else in the Bible who tried to make God’s will come true? (see Genesis 16:1-2). How did that work out? (see Genesis 17:17-19 and Genesis 16:11-12)
 - e) Why is it hard to wait for God to work out his will in our lives? What should we do? (see Psalm 40:1, Lamentations 3:25-26, and Psalm 46:10)
6. What have you been struggling with impatience about? Read Romans 12:12 and then prepare to spend some time in prayer.
7. Spend some time praying together. Start by being quiet and still before the Lord. Then offer up prayers for any specific needs that you’re aware of.