

e. How can the desires of the heart be changed? Have you experienced this?

f. How does the story of God's continual grace through messed-up people free you to be part of His plan?

Let's Pray:

Howard and Marilyn Plucar - EFCA Reach Global

Pray for wisdom in scheduling and planning in leading the member care team; for all those whose health is affected by the COVID-19; for God's healing mercy.

Pray for local, regional, and national government officials to have God-given wisdom and discernment to provide workable restriction solutions while promoting a spirit of unity during this difficult time (Romans 15:5-6).

Pray for kindness and gentleness with one another as we deal with inconvenient change, and patience and humility as we yearn for a safe return to more familiar times (Col 3:12-13).

Pray for encouragement, wisdom and discernment for GraceWay leadership as they navigate unfamiliar waters to bring us safely back to once again worship together here at GraceWay Church (James 1:5).

Sermon Notes

"Isaac's Dysfunctional Family"

Genesis 27

May 17, 2020

Outline

Scene 1 – the disobedience of Isaac and Esau (27:1-5)

Scene 2 – the deception of Rebekah and Jacob (27:6-17)

Scene 3 – the theft of the blessing (27:18-29)

Scene 4 – the distress of Isaac and Esau (27:30-40)

Scene 5 – the distress of Rebekah and Jacob (27:41-45)

Scene 6 – the giving of the blessing (27:46 – 28:5)

(Alan-P. Ross; Creation & Blessing, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, MI, 1988, pp. 474-75)

	How did they respond?	How could they have responded?
Rebekah		
Jacob		
Esau		
Isaac		

Examples in our families of ...

Manipulation:

Deception:

Favoritism:

Denial of Personal Responsibility:

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 05-17-20

Questions adapted from Michael Kelley, et al., eds., Gospel Foundations: The God who Creates, LifeWay Press, Nashville, TN, 2018, pp. 60-65; Nancy Guthrie, The Promised One: Seeing Jesus in Genesis, Crossway, Wheaton, IL, 2011, pp. 205-230; Karen Lee-Thorp, ed., Life Change Series: Genesis, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1987, p. 153-154.

Getting Started:

1. What are some common dysfunctions in families? How can God's grace in the gospel overcome these?

Digging Deeper:

Review Genesis 25:19-34, and read Genesis 27

2. God told Rebekah what his plan was for her children (Gen. 25:22-23). What was it?
3. This scene depicts typical family life after the Fall. How did each person in Isaac's family fail in response to this clearly revealed plan of God for the Promised One to come through Jacob instead of through the firstborn, Esau?

Isaac (25:23, 28; 27:1-4)

Rebekah (25:28; 27:5-17, 42-46)

Jacob (25:29-34; 27:11-27)

Esau (25:29-34; 27:34, 38, 41)

4. God's plan continues through a dysfunctional family.
 - a. In what kinds of situations do you find it easiest to deceive others?
 - b. In what kinds of situations are you most tempted to manipulate others?
 - c. Do you observe a tendency to blame others rather than consider your own fault in a matter?
 - d. What do your answers to a-c above teach you about what your heart craves?