



Lesson 14: The Different Twins

Scriptural Basis:



Genesis 25:19-34

Overview:

Isaac and Rebekah could not have children because Rebekah was barren and unable to bear children. However, after 20 years, God answered their prayers with twins. God told Rebekah that two nations were in her womb, and that the older would serve the younger. Esau was the firstborn and Jacob the second. In an act of foolishness on the part of Esau, and extortion on the part of Jacob, Esau sold his birthright to his younger brother for a bowl of stew.

Things to consider:

- God's promise to build a nation that would be blessed to be a blessing continues through (once again) the miraculous birth of a son who would carry on the line of promise.
- God chose Jacob rather than Esau, even though by earthly rights, the distinction belonged to Esau.
- Despite God's revelation to Rebekah that Esau would serve Jacob, it was wrong for Jacob to use treachery as a way of obtaining the birthright.
- Though Jacob was not worthy of God's choosing, God chose to use Jacob as the next step in fulfilling his promise.

The gospel in the story:



A deepening understanding of the gospel leads to a deeper understanding of the depravity of our own hearts, and therefore our need for salvation. It would seem that God is trying to emphasize this in the way He selects unworthy recipients like Jacob to receive His grace as He builds a nation that will bless the entire world.

Bible Study for Preparation:



Read Genesis 25:19-34. Jacob chose to exploit Esau's weakness for his own benefit. We will see in future lessons, that Jacob reaped bitter consequences for his actions. Consider ways in your own life that you have taken (or have been tempted to take) matters into your own hands for personal gain, rather than waiting on God in His timing. How did that work out for you?

Teaching the lesson:

- A: Review – Rebekah becomes a bride
- B: Bible verse memory activity
- C. Story
- D. Additional activity