

"Family Dysfunction in the Bible" Genesis 27

One of the things that points to the Bible's authenticity is that it clearly reveals the tragic faults of its heroes. That gives us all hope in the midst of our struggles.

1. Isaac couldn't (or _____) see the obvious. **V.1-4** Mt. 5:8
 - A. Good old dad was practically _____ and thought that he was near death. Actually Isaac _____ years old, and was the age that his half-brother, Ishmael, died. **25:17** Isaac would live another long _____.
 - B. Isaac _____ several important things: (Ignoring harmful things doesn't cause them to _____. IF you ignore GOD's Perspective you will always suffer the _____. Prov. 14:12)
 1. GOD spoke directly to Rebekah at the twins' birth, and clearly said, "the older _____ the younger." **25:23** Isaac knew this prophecy.
 2. That Esau had foolishly _____ away his family leadership role. (the _____). **25:33** It was a Big Deal. Luke 16:10
 3. Esau's deliberate decision to marry _____ three times, brought painful instability and _____ to the family. **26:34-35, 27:46**
 - C. Despite these red flags, Isaac seemed _____ to bestow on Esau the family leadership role. Showing _____ in your family will cause you ... to fail your family. **25:28**
2. When Rebekah _____ what Isaac had planned. She grew _____.
 - A. In a family, business, or ministry, failure _____ about problems and challenges allows everybody to get damaged. Get everyone together and put things _____. Failure to act ... allows the _____ to steal, kill, and destroy. **V.5-17** John 10:10
 - B. Rebekah's _____ bred deception and trickery. She remembered what GOD said, but she failed _____ GOD to bring it to pass. Instead she acted in the _____ and made the whole situation worse. Ex. 2::11-15, Prov. 14:1 Are you _____? Are you hiding things?
3. Jacob _____ his father and brother to get what he wanted. **V.18-29**
 - A. GOD had _____ it to him, so he could have had the Blessing, without the relational _____, with all its fallout. He couldn't be _____.
 - B. If you have to deceitfully manipulate others to get something, what you want is _____, or it is the wrong time for it. For the Servant of GOD, the end does not _____ the means. Don't lose your good _____. Prov. 22:1 Also if a person will cheat, swindle, and betray their own _____, that person is pretty _____.

- C. Jacob even invoked the _____ in his fraud. **V.20** Exodus 20:7
Did Jacob get _____ for this? Gen. 31:7 (Do you like being cheated?)
4. When the _____ was uncovered with the entrance of Esau, Isaac was devastated. **V.30-33** Trembling violently Isaac refused to _____ the blessing he had given Jacob and emphatically _____ its validity. **V.37,40** Confronted now with the fact that he had opposed _____, and watching the bitter weeping of his oldest son, Isaac realized that his passivity had _____.
5. Esau refused to _____ what he had done; so he shifted blame. **V.34-41**
The fix is called _____. Prov. 28:13 Are you _____ or slow to confess?
- A. Once he had sold his birthright to Jacob, with _____ he had 2 options.
He could have offered to _____ back. OR he needed to fall _____.
- B. Have you _____ the Birthright of privilege, responsibilities, and giftings that GOD and others gave to you? 25:29-34
- C. Just because a Believer confesses, _____, and walks away from his Sin doesn't mean that the forgiven person gets _____ that they lost. _____ won't allow it. Sin always has _____, and we see it played out in Isaac's Family.
- D. Esau (and his family) carried this _____ for the rest of his life. V. 41
_____ can make you bitter. Prolonged anger, _____, and hatred are a choice. Forgiveness, release and freedom are also _____.
Mt. 6:15, Eph. 4:31-32, Mt. 18:21-35

6. The Fallout - V.42-45

- A. Now Rebekah was faced with another, far-more menacing dilemma, that she had a _____. She could lose both of her sons, to _____ and to _____. **V.45** So she quickly helped Jacob flee to her brother Laban's home, _____ away.
- B. Don't make the mistake that just because it was prophesized that Jacob would become the _____ and more influential of the two brothers, that Esau was _____ by GOD to mediocrity or to devastation. Esau was born to _____. He _____, and it ruined him and his family. Hebrews 12:14-17, Romans 9:13

Which of the characters in this family are you most like?

Redemption is available for everyone, no matter what they have done.