

## Let's Talk: Day 29-One Story

Isaac & Rebekah – The Servant's Prayer for God's Direction & God's Guidance

Today's Reading: Genesis 24; Psalm 37:3-8; Proverbs 3:5-6

Play a game of "Marco Polo" in your house (where one person is blindfolded or closes their eyes and has to try to catch the rest of the players). If it is too hard, make the seeing people stay on their knees. It's hard to know where to go when you are trying to catch a moving target and can't see where you are going. How important is listening?

Questions:

1. What job did Abraham give his servant? How do we see that the servant made this job his priority?
2. How did the servant ask God for help? How did God answer? Have you ever prayed a bold prayer and really trusted in God to answer it? If so, what happened?
3. What do we learn about Rebekah from the way she interacts with the servant and is willing to leave her home?
4. What action words can you find in our readings in Psalm 37 and Proverbs 3? Do you think the servant applied these verbs? How can you apply them in your life?

## Let's Talk: Day 30

Esau & the Birthright – God Chooses the Second Birth & Esau's Shortsighted Trade

Today's Reading: Genesis 25; Romans 9:10-12; Hebrews 12:14-17

Do one of the following to introduce the story today: make a pot of soup together or some kind of meal to share or play a game of darts/Nerf guns. Jacob was a good cook and Esau hunted.

Questions:

1. What did Isaac pray for Rebekah? Give the names and a short description of her twins.
2. What did the Lord tell Rebekah about her twins? How is the second born more blessed than the firstborn?
3. Who did each parent favor? Do parents sometimes have the wrong priorities? What should a child do if they think their parent is making a mistake?
4. What did Esau give away because he was hungry? What was his priority in this situation? Was it wise?

### **Let's Talk: Day 31**

Isaac & the Blessing – Isaac Inherits the Blessings God Gave to Abraham

Today's Reading: Genesis 26; 1Chronicles 16:14-22; Galatians 4:28

Parents, we know we desire good things and a happy future for our kids but how often do we say it? Take this time to speak a blessing over each of your kids. Kids crave our praise though they don't want to admit it.

Questions:

1. What mistake did Isaac make when visiting Abimelech? Does this story sound familiar? How is it easy to repeat the same mistakes of our parents?
2. What battle did Isaac have over water wells? How did he handle it?
3. How did God pass the blessing from Abraham on to Isaac?
4. Look back over your lives together as a family. How has God blessed you?

### **Let's Talk: Day 32**

Jacob & the Blessing – Jacob Deceiving Others & Being Deceived by Others (Sowing & Reaping)

Today's Reading: Genesis 27 & 29:21-25; Galatians 6:7-8

One of our verses today talks about how we reap what we sow. Jacob tricked others and was then tricked himself. "Reap what you sow" is also true for doing good deeds. Give it a try! For example: In a drive-

thru at Starbucks or a fast food restaurant, pay for the person behind you. Watch and see if you reap good back.

Questions:

1. Whose idea was it to trick Isaac? What did she tell Jacob to do? Do you think parents struggle with making good choices as much as kids?
2. How did Jacob convince Isaac that he was Esau?
3. Where did Jacob go to escape his brother's anger? How was Jacob deceived by his uncle?
4. What kinds of things do you sow in your life? Are you kind, forgiving, generous, impatient, angry or a tattler? Do you find yourself "reaping" similar attributes or different? Explain.

### **Let's Talk: Day 33**

Jacob & the Ladder – People Connecting to Heaven through a Ladder (i.e. through Jesus)

Today's Reading: Genesis 28; Psalm 105:4-12; John 1:49-51

Draw a ladder with ten rungs. Individually, or as a family, on each rung write a way that you can get closer to Jesus in your life. Discuss how our salvation comes from what Jesus did on the cross, but we can still do things to grow in our relationship with Him.

Questions:

1. What did Jacob dream about while sleeping on his stone pillow?
2. What did God promise Jacob? Can you think of any promises God has made to you? (Hint: think Bible verses) Does God ever forget his promises?
3. What promise did Jacob make to God? Have you ever promised God anything? Did you follow through on that promise?
4. When considering Jacob's identity, is God currently Jacob's God or his father's God? How about you? Is God your God or more of your parents' God?

### **Let's Talk: Day 34**

Jacob & Leah/Rachel – Leah & Rachel Struggle with Each Other & are Used by God

Today's Reading: Genesis 29 & 30\*; Ruth 4:10-11

Leah and Rachel tried to outdo each other by having children. While the children were used by God, they had selfish intentions. Competition between these sisters hurt their relationship. Here's a way to use competition for good: In the next 24 hours try to outdo each other with kind acts. Who can be the most thoughtful or the most affectionate? Who can do the most chores or give the most compliments?

Questions:

1. What were the names of Leah's sons? What was the name of Rachel's son? How are both of these women finding their identity and approval from their husband and their kids? Do you think this is God's desire? Why or why not?
2. Each son's name meant something. What does your name mean? Ask your parents why they chose that name for you. Is it a part of your identity?
3. How did Jacob trick Laban into keeping the best of the flock for himself?
4. Even if their motivation was off, how did God use Rachel and Leah to build the house of Israel (Jacob)? How can God use you in His household?

\* CAUTION: Parents of younger children should always share the truth but may want to use discretion in explaining the specifics detailed in this chapter.

## Let's Talk: Day 35

Today's Reading: Weekly day OFF

Weekly Review: Think back on this week's reading. What story stands out to you and why? As a family, pick a verse on which to meditate or memorize (suggestions: Romans 8:31, 38, 39; Psalm 37:4, 5, 7, 8; Proverbs 3:5, 6).

Preview Family Activity: As parents, we try to build certain qualities into our children. The Grace@Home model lists particular blocks to develop during various ages of our children (see [graceathome.net](http://graceathome.net)). Each week we will offer a building-block specific activity related to the upcoming week's reading. As you read about the life of Jacob consider the building block of "Identity." Jacob struggled with his. As family

members, brainstorm three words to describe yourselves and then three words to describe the family. Share together. Did you come up with the same words for family? Do you agree with the way family members described themselves? Be considering your identity as you read this week. Do you define yourself by what you do or who God says you are?