

GENESIS 25-30

WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

WEEK IN REVIEW

This week began with Abraham passing away, and his sons Isaac and Ishmael burying him. Isaac's wife Rebekah became pregnant with two sons, and they wrestled with each other before they were even born. The Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger." This is important because during this time, the older son would receive all of the Father's wealth and status, not the younger. This is called the birthright. The twins were named Esau and Jacob, and they were very different. Esau was born first, and grew up to be a hunter who loved being outdoors. If he were alive today you could probably find him at Bass Pro Shops. Jacob, on the other hand, preferred to stay close to home, and you could probably find him cooking soup in the kitchen with his mom.

Through the next few chapters there is deception (lying) and disobedience. Jacob, the younger son, tricks Esau into selling him his birthright. Jacob told Esau he would give him some stew if Esau would give him the rights of being the firstborn in their family. Esau was impatient and accepted this offer and gave it all away for a bowl of stew. Jacob, with the help of Rebekah, also lies to his father Isaac in order to receive a blessing that was meant for Esau. This blessing was not just words, but the passing down of the promises of God. Jacob stole both Esau's birthright and his blessing. He lacked integrity, which is doing what is right when no one is watching!

Jacob left to go east fearing what Esau might do to him after the blessing was stolen. Jacob falls asleep on a rock and has a famous dream of a ladder, or stairway to Heaven. The Lord appears to Jacob and affirms His promises previously said to Abraham and Isaac, even in Jacob's sin and brokenness. After this happens, the script is flipped and Jacob is deceived. Jacob is with his uncle Laban and meets a girl named Rachel. Jacob agrees to work for Laban for seven years in order to marry Rachel. Laban plans a wedding feast, but then pulls a bait-and-switch and gives his oldest daughter Leah to Jacob. Laban does this to get Jacob to work for him longer. We will continue to see the story of Jacob unfold as we journey through Genesis. God is faithful to fulfill His promise even in Jacob's shortcomings. We can thank God that the same is true for us today!

FAMILY GUIDE

BIG IDEA:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● God is faithful even in our sin and brokenness
KEY STORIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Jacob and Esau● Stolen Blessing● Jacob's Ladder● Leah and Rachel
KEY VERSES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Genesis 25:23<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger."● Genesis 28:13<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ "I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying."
WORDS TO KNOW:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Integrity<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Doing what is right when no one is watching● Birthright<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The rights and responsibilities of the firstborn son in a family

Reflection Questions

1.	What is integrity?
2.	How do you show integrity?
3.	Who stole his brothers birthright?
4.	What dream does Jacob have and what does God remind him of?