

## NOTES:

**SERIES:** The Story Begins (Gospel Project)

**SERMON 10:** "God's Dysfunctional Covenant Family"

**TEXT:** Genesis 27:1-40

**DATE:** November 12/13, 2016

1. God's plan and blessing goes forward through a \_\_\_\_\_ family.  
Genesis 27:1-17

God pours out His mercy on the \_\_\_\_\_, and we're all \_\_\_\_\_.

The fact that we are all broken and every family is dysfunctional is not an argument for \_\_\_\_\_ for yourself or for your family.

- God wants to \_\_\_\_\_ us.
- God calls us to live for his \_\_\_\_\_.
- Brokenness and dysfunction always lead to painful \_\_\_\_\_.

Brokenness has painful consequences, but they're not consequences that God can't \_\_\_\_\_.

2. God's plan and blessing goes forward through a \_\_\_\_\_ son.  
Genesis 27:18-29

Jacob crosses line when he lies to his father repeatedly and invokes \_\_\_\_\_ to cover his lie.

Jacob craved for what his brother had and his father \_\_\_\_\_ to give him. So he is willing to become someone other than himself, lie, and then blaspheme God to get it.

Sin is always an inappropriate way of dealing with the \_\_\_\_\_ of our brokenness. (Larry Crabb)

You have the \_\_\_\_\_ to bless with your words and your actions.

How to bless:

- Say what you see \_\_\_\_\_ this person.
- Say what you see \_\_\_\_\_ this person.

3. God's plan and blessing goes forward through a \_\_\_\_\_ father.  
Genesis 27:30-40

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Read Genesis 27:1-17. What are some of the dysfunctions evident in Isaac's family?
3. In what ways does the dysfunction in your life or family discourage you from engaging in God's plan and mission?
4. How does the story of God's continual grace through messed-up people free you to be part of His plan?
5. Read Genesis 27:18-29. There are certain situations where we tend to deceive others and make them think we are something we are not. List two or three of these situations and what each one tells us about what our hearts are craving?
6. How can God meet these cravings in our lives?
7. Think of someone you can bless (e.g., a family member, someone you teach or mentor, a friend). Write out a blessing that notes a character trait you admire in that person (be specific about the trait and how you've seen it played out) and then explain how you see that character trait being expressed in the future throughout their lives.
8. (This question is for you alone, not for the small group.) Read Genesis 27:30-40. Isaac seems to repent in verse 33. Who is someone who has failed to receive your blessing? What can you do about it?
9. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply.

### Family Discussion Questions:

1. In what ways is our family similar to Isaac and Rebekah's? What can we learn from their example?
2. How can the truth that God is always working out His plan help our family face difficult times?
3. How is it reassuring to you to know that we can't get in the way of God's plan?

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### CHRIST CONNECTION

Like Jacob, we seek a blessing, but we cannot lie, deceive, or blaspheme God to receive it. Instead, Jesus shared His blessing with us when he took the judgment we deserve so that we might receive the blessing he deserved.

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### BIG PICTURE QUESTION

What can stop God's plan?