

Sunday February 18, 2024 - "Genesis - Jacob - Week 1 - Hairy Monster and the Heal Catcher" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Genesis 25:19-34, Luke 19:42

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Genesis 25:19-34 - Abraham has died and Isaac is the new patriarch
- There is tension between Jacob and Esau → they become two nations, two peoples
- v20-21: seems very simple
  - Isaac was 60 when Rebekah became pregnant...20 years of struggling and unanswered prayers
  - Isaac didn't do what Abraham did...he remained faithful to God and monogamous)...waits on the promises
- Ancient culture - marriage more like a contract
  - Procreation was maybe the most important part of the contract (barrenness seemed like failure)
  - They assumed anything bad was because of something your or your ancestors did wrong
- Barrenness among the patriarchs of the faith
  - God's promises are rock solid
  - Character is forged in the waiting
    - We see this over and over in scripture...King David waited decades after being anointed king
    - We live in a culture of instant everything
    - It's always easier to know WHAT God wants than WHEN he will do it
- When we refuse to wait on God, chaos ensues
- Why infertility?
  - God is the one who fulfills the promise
  - They viewed Rebekah getting pregnant as the miracle that it was
  - Isaac prayed...entreats...pleads with God for 20 years → don't give up, don't stop praying
- v22 - Struggled...more like broke, bruised, crushed
  - Rebekah prays intentionally and seeks the Lord
  - She receives a prophetic word
- What comes with birthright?
  - 2/3 of the inheritance vs. 1/3
  - Becoming the leader of the family/business/God's promise
  - Esau didn't see the value of the single most valuable thing in his life
- Esau despises the greatest treasure he could ever have
- Story is a warning to all of us
  - How am I just like Esau?
  - He wants what he wants, and he isn't willing to wait
- Luke 19:42
- Where are you willing to forfeit the promise for instant gratification?

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. How have you learned what God wants to do uniquely through you?
2. How has the Lord forged your character in the waiting?
3. When was a time that you experienced chaos because you didn't wait on the Lord?
4. Where have you been tempted to forfeit the promises of God for instant gratification?
5. Give an example of a time you knew what God wanted to do but not when he would do it. What did you learn from this?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this message or passage?

**Songs from the weekend:**

[Here For You - *Matt Redman*] - [Goodness of God - *Bethel Music*] - [Psalm 46 (Lord of Hosts) - *Shane and Shane*] - [Praises (Be Lifted Up) - *Bethel Music*] - [Give Thanks - *Henry Smith*]