


Jacob and Esau

1. Isaac and Rebekah


- Turn to Genesis 25:20. **Mark** how old Isaac was when he was married to Rebekah
- In verse 21, **circle** the word “barren” and in the margin, **write** “unable to have children” 
- Now go all the way down to verse 26 and underline “Isaac was threescore years old”. A “score” is twenty. So three “scores” is sixty. **Write** “60 years old = they were unable to have children for 20 years!”
- Now go back up to verse 21 and **mark** “Isaac intreated the Lord for his wife” and **write** “how many prayers do you think they prayed over 20 years?”
- **Circle** the word “conceived” in verse 21. Next to that **write** “became pregnant”

2. Twins!

- **Circle** the word “children” in verse 22. Above that **write** “twins”.
- **Mark** the question “why am I thus?” and **write** “why is this happening?”
- **Mark** the phrase “And she went to enquire of the Lord”, and then draw a line connecting that phrase with the phrase you already marked in verse 21, “Isaac intreated the Lord for his wife” where Isaac also prays when he is seeking for answers. This is a righteous couple!
- Put a big box around the Lord’s answer to Rebekah where he says, “Two nations are in thy womb”. And next to that verse **write**: “Their descendants will become 2 separate nations”.
- In verse 23, **circle** “from thy bowels” and **write** “born”.
- Also in verse 23, underline “the elder shall serve the younger” and **write** next to

it: “not the cultural norm.

Rebekah knows through revelation the youngest will have the birthright”

- In verse 25, **circle** “first” and **write** “should have the birthright”
- Get a sticky note and write the following on the sticky note: “The birthright is the right or inheritance of one of the sons, and he was usually the firstborn. His inheritance included land and the authority to preside upon the death of the father.” 
- Put that sticky note in your scriptures somewhere on that page.
- **Circle** and color in the name of the firstborn in verse 25. And then **circle** and color in the name of the second born in verse 26.

3. Jacob and Esau

- In verse 27, **mark** the individual characteristics of each son.
- In verse 28, **circle** “venison” and **write** “meat”
- In verse 29, **circle** “pottage” and **write** “stew”
- Take a second and read verses 29-34. This is a very famous story.
- Go back up to verse 29 and **circle** “faint” and **write**: “in need of food and rest”
- In verse 31, **circle** and color in the word “birthright” and **write** next to it “The right to preside over the Abrahamic Covenant!”
- Now draw a big box around verses 4 and 5 in the next chapter (26) and **write** “The promises of the Abrahamic Covenant” in the margin.
- Draw a line from that box to the word “birthright” back in 25:31
- **Underline** Esau’s response in verse 32: “what profit shall this birthright do to me?” and **write** next to it “Esau

doesn’t care about his birthright.”

- At the top of the page write: “Jacob = cherishes his covenants, has an eternal perspective. Esau = Doesn’t value his covenants. Wants pleasure now.”
- Now turn to 26:34. Put a big box around this verse. **Read it.** Next to it **write** “Esau marries outside of the covenant = now he really sells his birthright.”
- Now go over to 27: 28-30 and draw a big box around those verses. **Write** next to it: “Jacob officially receives the birthright”
- Now draw a big box around 36-38 and **write** “Esau’s reaction when he doesn’t get the birthright.”
- Read those verses and **mark** what stands out to you in those verses.
- Next to verse 36, **write** “Esau blames Jacob, doesn’t take accountability for himself.”
- **Mark** the last sentence in verse 38. This is a really sad moment. Next to that phrase **write**: “Esau valued it after he lost it.”
- Read verse 41 and **mark** how Esau feels after he loses the birthright.
- Now turn to 28:1. Put a box around that entire verse and **write** off to the side “Jacob is told not to marry outside of the covenant.”
- Now **circle** verse 7. Draw a line connecting verse 7 with verse 1.

4. Consider the following questions:

- My birthright is to become like Heavenly Father. What am I doing to show that I cherish that?
- What are some “pottages” of today that I see others selling their birthright for?
- When are times that I blame other for my own choices, like Esau blamed Jacob?
- What can I do to avoid having a moment in my future, like Esau when he realized that he lost something really important?