



**Series:** Genesis

**Passage:** Genesis Chapter 25:23-34

**Title:** Lessons on Life - From Jacob and Esau

**Speaker:** Pastor David Menard, 12/04/2022

**Discussion Starter** – What were some of the important lessons on life that spoke to you most in this sermon as we studied the early life of Jacob and Esau?

Read Genesis 25:23-28

- What do the names “Jacob” and “Esau” mean? In what ways are their names descriptive of their lives?
- What was the prophecy over the twins regarding their future and the future of the Abrahamic covenant? Why do you think God orchestrated it in this untraditional manner?
- What different traits and gifts do we see in Jacob and Esau from their birth?
- In what surprising ways were their different gifting’s used in the fulfillment of the prophecy?
- What characteristics do you recognize in your own life, or the lives of yours or other children that were obviously observed at an early age?
- How have you seen God use these gifting’s to accomplish His will?
- How did you think the “parental favoritism” affected Jacob and Esau as they grew? What important disciplines are necessary to provide a balanced and godly home for our children?
- Why is it not appropriate to gain self-worth from our children’s accomplishments?

Read Genesis 25:29-34

- What was meant by the term “birthright” to Isaac’s family? What benefits came with the birthright in this account?
- What birthright can we pass on to our families today? What benefits accompany our birthright as believers?
- What pitfalls are there in rejecting it? (Romans 1:28-32)
- Why did Esau so easily sell his birthright? What does this tell us about his priorities, values and his faith in God?
- What values and desires, (carnal appetites) of Esau exist in your life? How do they compete for a position of priority in your daily decisions?
- What do people in today’s world mindlessly trade for their eternal soul?
- What does the bible teach us about controlling our carnal appetites? (Romans 6:12-14)
- How did Jacob’s personal character influence how he valued the birthright?
- What can we learn from Moses in Hebrews 11:24-26 about living a life of focus, with priorities based upon the truth of God’s word?