

# STUDY GUIDE

## GENESIS: Week 13 8.10.14

### [set up]

Two weeks ago Pastor Dean spoke about the formation of Isaac and Rebecca's marriage. Abraham led in God's way in how he obtained a wife for his son. How have you led your relationships God's way this week? What area do you want to continue to improve in?

This week Pastor Rick preached on the relationship between Isaac and Rebecca's twin boys, Jacob and Esau. Jacob attained the blessing and Esau did not.

### [digging deeper]

Read Genesis 25:21-27, 29-34, then have someone summarize what happened when Jacob was blessed by Isaac instead of Esau (chap 27).

Who are you more like: Jacob or Esau? Are you a schemer, shrewd, brooding? Or are you more impulsive, prone to outbursts, rash? In the story of Jacob and Esau found in Genesis 25-27, who is the "good guy?" Is there a good guy? But God still blesses Jacob. Why does God bless Jacob or anyone else who isn't a moral and upright person?

What we set or sights on most often determines our destination. What are some things you have set your sights on right now? Are they healthy things or harmful things? How do you keep a healthy desire or goal from turning harmful?

Is there someone in the group that lives in a way that you admire? Would that person share with the group some ideas on how to live in that way?

Christ above all was blessed by God, but Christ lived a perfect life and never did wrong. The result of Christ's perfect life was blessing for all who believe. Though we are far from perfect, how do we model this in our day-to-day lives as Christians?

### [living it out]

It's hard to love our family and friends. It's even harder to love those that don't seem to deserve love. In light of verses like Romans 3:10-12, 23, Isaiah 53:6, Romans 5:8 and many others, how are we to respond to people that don't seem to deserve love considering how Jesus responded to us who don't deserve love?

What is the name of a specific person in your life that you need God's help in loving? Will you pray for that person this week?

What is the name of a person that you know God wants you to spend time with but you haven't? Will you spend time with that person this week?