



Rev. Tom Cook 10.11.2015*

Central Congregational Church

“For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors”

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A Tale of TwoSons

Genesis 25:19-34

Series: Genesis – The Story of Us All

Central Passage

Genesis 25:21–26 (NIV) — **21** Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was childless. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant. **22** The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, “Why is this happening to me?” So she went to inquire of the LORD. **23** The LORD said to her, “Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger.” **24** When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. **25** The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. **26** After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau’s heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when Rebekah gave birth to them.

❖ Don’t make important decisions when you are hungry!

Genesis 25:29–34 (NIV) — **29** Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished. **30** He said to Jacob, “Quick, let me have some of that red stew! **I’m famished!**” (That is why he was also called Edom.) **31** Jacob replied, “First sell me your birthright.” **32** “Look, I am about to die,” Esau said. “What good is the birthright to me?” **33** But Jacob said, “Swear to me first.” So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob. **34** Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. **So Esau despised his birthright.**

❖ God has a plan!

Genesis 25:23 (NIV) — **23** The LORD said to her, “Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger.”

Genesis 28:13–15 (NIV) — **13** There above it stood the LORD, and he said: “I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. **14** Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. **15 I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.**”

❖ God hears our prayers!

Genesis 25:21 (NIV) — **21** Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was childless. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant. (See also Psalm 48:9; 119:97)

Matthew 7:7–8 (NIV) — **7** “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. **8** For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

❖ Be tenacious in our walk with God!

Genesis 25:24–26 (NIV) — **24** When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. **25** The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. **26** After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau’s heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when Rebekah gave birth to them.

❖ Practice holiness!

Leviticus 11:44 (NIV) — **44** I am the LORD your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am holy. Do not make yourselves unclean by any creature that moves along the ground. (See also Ephesians 1:4)