

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

DYSFUNCTION JUNCTION: WEEK 1

While anyone can take time to answer these questions individually, these questions are best discussed in a group! Not in a group yet? We want you in one! Head over to southeastchristian.org to join a group in person or online, wherever you are - today!

Which pop culture family is your actual family the most like? What are some of the similarities/differences you see between your family and the families you used to watch on TV? In what ways is being part of a family one of the greatest joys in life? In what ways is being part of a family one of the greatest challenges in life?

Read Genesis 25:19-34. What happened when Isaac and Rebekah had their children? What were some of the early signs that things might not be so great in this family? How did their "sibling rivalry" spill out in some life-altering ways? How do you think favoritism (Gen. 25:28) affected their family dynamics?

Why do you think Esau had such little regard for his birthright? How much should he have valued it? How does Esau's selling of his birthright paint a picture of what temptation does to us (Hebrews 12:-16-17)? How does sin convince us to trade that which is valuable for something that is only temporary?

As you think about the story of Jacob and Esau, which brother do you most identify with? Which is it easiest for you to sympathize with? When it comes to family hurt, how can we be like each of these brothers? Why do you think that family hurt like this has such a unique ability to cause us pain?

Read Genesis 27:18-29 (the account of what happened when Jacob stole Esau's blessing). How did Jacob deceive his father? Why do you think Jacob and Rebekah convinced themselves to do such a thing? How did God use even this broken family to help advance His plan to bring Jesus into the world?

As you close, reread Genesis 27:28-29. What stands out to you about this blessing? How should our families be a place for people to be blessed in such a way? How should the church, as the family of God, be a place/people who blesses others in these ways? Close in prayer by asking God to make us people and families of blessing!