

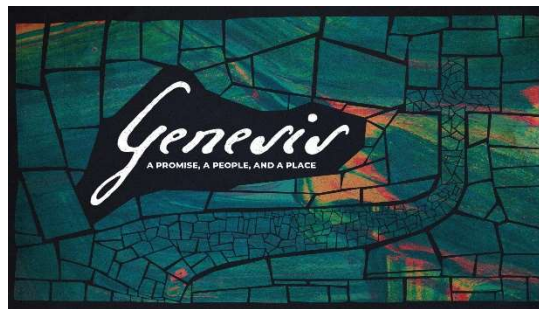
# Sermon Discussion Guide

Date: March 10, 2024

Text: Genesis 25:12 – 26:35

Preacher: Jerrod

Link to Sermon: [Click Here](#)



## **SUMMARY**

*Big Idea: God's Elect Purposes Endure...*

Our passage today covers the descendants of Ishmael and Isaac. 25:12 begins with "these are the generations of Ishmael..." and then 25:19 follows, "these are the generations of Isaac..." With Isaac's sons, the author slows down the pace of narrative to catch a glimpse of the sovereign and electing purposes of God as it's carried out through Isaac's sons (Jacob and Esau), as well as the life experience of Isaac in chapter 26. What simmers to the surface throughout the passages is God working all things according to His purposes - despite the apparent enmity and trickery, foolishness and failures of His people. Jacob and Esau, as well as Isaac, all need a Savior. Furthermore, they all, and us as well, need God's electing grace to work in us by the Spirit to open our eyes and hearts to desire the good and saving blessings of God.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

### **Opener**

1. "He's a chip off the old block" - For better or worse, (praise and prayer) how have you seen this?

### **Read Genesis 25:19-34**

2. How do you see God's electing purposes endure in this passage?
  - a. Between Esau *despising* and Jacob's *grasping* through trickery, on what basis does God dispense his saving blessings to anyone? How does Romans 9:6-16 relate to your answer and this passage in Genesis?
  - b. Though perhaps not seen at first glance, in what ways are you prone to be a "chip off the block of Esau"? To help you answer, consider the following areas that consumed Esau and ask 2 questions: Where is this in the text with Esau? Where is this in my life?
    - i. Consumed with the moment
    - ii. Consumed with physical condition
    - iii. Consumed with himself, and not God
    - iv. Consumed with his own desires

### **Read (or summarize) Genesis 26:1-35**

3. How do you see God's electing purposes endure in this passage?
  - a. What do you make of Isaac repeating much of what his father Abraham experienced and did?
    - i. Consider Genesis 12:10-20; 20:1-18 and note the echoes with chapter 26
  - b. Is there a difference between knowing about God, versus knowing God experientially?
    - i. What do you think Isaac learned through this?
    - ii. What might the Lord desire you to learn through this chapter?