

WRESTLING WITH GOD - STUDY #3

- GENESIS 27

Wrestling with *imposter syndrome*

Share

1. Can you think of a time when you felt pressure to pretend to be someone you're not — at work, in friendships, or even in church? What happened, and how did you feel?

Observe & Reflect

Read Genesis 27:1–29

2. What do we learn about each character in this section — Isaac, Rebekah, Esau, and Jacob? What motivates each of them?
3. How does Rebekah's scheme unfold? What risks are involved, and how does Jacob respond to them?
4. In verses 18–29, Jacob lies multiple times. What strikes you about Isaac's uncertainty and eventual decision to bless "Esau"? What are the different ways Isaac tries to confirm his identity?
5. What kind of blessing does Isaac give in verses 27–29? How does it reflect the promises God gave to Abraham? (Genesis 12:1-3)

Read Genesis 27:30–41

6. How does Esau respond when the deception is uncovered? What does this show about how much the blessing mattered?
7. Isaac doesn't reverse the blessing. What might that suggest about how seriously spoken words of blessing and inheritance were treated?
8. What do you think this passage teaches us about human sinfulness? What forms does sin take in this chapter?
9. Jacob gains the blessing, but at what cost? How do we begin to see consequences for everyone involved?
10. If you zoom out and consider Genesis 25:23 (where God says the older will serve the younger), how does God's sovereignty interact with human sin and deception in this story?

11. Jacob pretended to be someone else in order to receive a blessing that wasn't rightly his. In contrast, how does Jesus make it possible for us to receive a blessing we don't deserve?

Read Ephesians 1:3-14

13. How are the blessings we have in Christ different from the blessing Jacob stole? How are they similar?

Next steps

14. What would it look like to stop pretending or striving to earn God's blessing, and instead live as someone who is fully known and fully accepted in Christ?

Extra thinking: *Clothing ourselves in Christ*

Take some time to read some or all of the following verses, and summarise what it looks like to 'clothe ourselves in Christ'

Romans 13:14, Galatians 3:27, Colossians 3:12-14, Ephesians 4:22-24, Ephesians 6:10-17, 1 Peter 5:5, 2 Corinthians 3:18, Philippians 2:5, Romans 8:29, John 15:4-5, 1 John 2:6, Galatians 5:22-25, Isaiah 61:10