Summary Genesis 27 - Quit Acting Like Esau

In this chapter, we see a dysfunctional family full of favoritism and poor communication disintegrate. Rebecca and Jacob conspire and trick Isaac by Jacob pretending to be Esau. The blessing is given to Jacob but it will not be enough. We learn that a father's words really matter to sons. Every one of us needs someone greater to bless us. But even a super father's words will never be enough for a son. We all need the blessing of our heavenly Father. The good news is we, through Jesus' work on calvary, have the blessing of the firstborn according to Hebrews 12:23.

Scriptures – Genesis 27; Proverbs 12:18; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Colossians 3:5-9; Titus 3:3-4; Psalm 27:10; Hebrews 12:23

1.   In a family, what are some potential consequences of a parent favoring one child over another?

2.   Why do you think the voice of a parent or authority figure matters so much in the life of a child? In what ways have the words of a such a figure impacted your life?

3.   Jacob seeks to gain his father's acceptance and approval by putting on Esau's clothes and posing as someone he is not.
        a. What "clothes" do we put on in our own lives to gain acceptance and approval?
        b. How would this change if we truly believed that we are robed in Christ (Galatians 3) and are considered "firstborns" by God (Hebrew 12:23)?

4.   What is the problem with disguising yourself as someone else for the sake of acceptance?
        a. How does it impact your relationships with other people?
        b. How does it impact your relationship with God?

5.   It's important to bless our children both prophetically (in prayer) and physically (in tangible ways).
        a. How are the respective voices of a mother and father unique, and how can parents work as a team (with their respective gifts) to bless their children?
        b. What are some specific ways you can work to empower your spouse in blessing your kids?
        c. If you are a spiritual "parent," teacher, or authority figure in the lives of others, how also can you bless your "children?"