

Tri-Village Sermon Discussion Questions

Topic: *Rebekah: A Protective Mother* Text: Genesis 27 Service Date: May 11, 2025

Note: The questions are only a starting point for discussion. Don't hesitate to modify, adapt, or highlight only specific ones to fit your group and/or personal study.

Getting Started

- This past Sunday was Mother's Day. Growing up, what are things that stood out about your mother (personality, mannerisms, things she enjoyed or did well, etc.)?
- Did the way you see your parents change as you became older? Do you think they changed or just your perspective?
- The sermon had several lessons related to parenting, but for those who are unable to have children, including those who aren't married, this type of sermon can be difficult (even viewed as irrelevant or a hurtful reminder). Yet, there is spiritual value in studying every Biblical story and listening for God's voice in the process. What value do you find in studying a passage of Scripture when it doesn't appear as though there's a quick application to you personally?

Sermon Discussion

- Aren't you glad that God doesn't show favorites when it comes to us?! Paul noted in the sermon, "Whenever there is favoritism with one child over another, the result is anxiety and sadness, and even sometimes complete alienation." Why do you think it's important to understand that God doesn't show favorites when it comes to us, as His children?
- "Don't allow minor frustrations to irritate you so much as to change your personality- be realistic!" When you've encountered a frustrating situation, does your personality drastically change and have a negative effect on those around you? If so, is this a personality trait you think can be easily changed or will it take work?
- The sermon referenced how a husband and wife not communicating well over a long period of time can have an impact on kids. Have you seen this

occur? What can be the result on children when parents communicate well?

- "Don't allow deceptions of this world to be stronger than the truth of God's Word- be diligent." It can be extremely easy to have a "slow fade" in your spiritual life, becoming more like the world and less like what God's Word wants us to be. If you were to take a spiritual inventory of your life right now, are there some areas that, if a non-Christian was to look at them, could not tell the difference between how you and the world acts? A few examples: entertainment, financial management, relationships, social media, spiritually lazy. Have you made a definitive plan of how you will address the area(s) in a way that would honor God?
- Proverbs 16:2 says, "All a person's ways seem pure to them, but motives are weighed by the Lord." It can be easy to give the perception like we want to do the right thing, but it is much more difficult to maintain pure motives on a consistent basis. What are ways you've found that help you keep your motives/ways pure instead of self-seeking?
- "Esau held a grudge against Jacob because of the blessing his father had given him. He said to himself, 'The days of mourning for my father are near; then I will kill my brother Jacob'" (Genesis 27:41). As referenced in the question above, motives can affect a person's well-being. In thinking about our motivation, do you find that your weekly scheduled is more motivated by what you think needs to get accomplished or what God would have you be doing?
- This week, who are you praying for that needs to Jesus in their life? How are you specifically praying- what "doors" are you asking God to open?

Books Mentioned in the Sermon

Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible by Liz Curtis Higgs Mean Mothers: Overcoming the Legacy of Hurt by Pam Streep

Have you or someone in your group experienced a Story of Life Change?

We'd love to hear about it! In fact, one of Tri-Village's values is "Stories of Life Change". Visit tri-village.org/yourstory and share how God worked.