

God's Grace to Broken Families

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Text: Genesis 25

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Series: Genesis

Introduction: We're going right through the book of Genesis, and this week we're in the 25th chapter.

Today we're going to deal with a man named Isaac. We are looking at the life of Abraham. Finally God gave the Promised Seed. He had a son and His name is Isaac. Last week we looked at dating, courtship, Isaac getting married.

This week what we're going to look at is **three major life events** that shaped Isaac in a tremendous way.

- First, we see God's grace at a **funeral**. The first we're going to look at is him **burying his father**, Abraham dies, so one generation is gone. Then Isaac rises up as the head of the household and the leader of the next generation, and he has to define what the terms are in regards to his half brother, Ishmael. So one generation dies.
- Second, we see God's grace at a **family feud**. We see Isaac taking leadership and has to sort out its family dynamics and conflict with his brother Ishmael, and it's not pretty.
- Third, we see God's grace in **fatherhood**. We need God's grace in our family to raise our own kids as the next generation comes into fruition.

Today Abraham dies. Sarah, his wife, has already died. Today is the last day for dad and Grandpa Abraham. It starts in Genesis 25, and it summarizes his life. Isaac and Ishmael go to their father's funeral together.

I. **Abraham's funeral** (vs. 1-11).

Applications.

1. Are you ready to bury your dad?

2. Financially, are you at a place like Abraham, where you've got an inheritance that you can give to your children?

3. If you're a parent, are you ready to be buried?

II. Ishmael's feud (vs. 12-18).

Applications concerning God's grace and wayward family members.

1. Realize when you are lost, you make huge mistakes because you are spiritually blind.
2. Only God can save. You can give the Gospel, but God must give the increase.
1 Corinthians 3:6.
3. Don't get bitter. Don't get angry. Don't get mad. Leave your hands extended, but let them go if they do not want a relationship.

III. Isaac's family (vs. 19-34).

Applications.

1. Godly homes need spiritual intimacy. Intimacy is more spiritual than physical. Prayer between couples builds godly intimacy.
2. Godly homes need to have an established pattern of prayer. Keep Praying!
3. Godly parents must be careful to focus on the heart, not the externals. Hebrews 12:16-17.

Esau was Godless. He doesn't care about God. He doesn't care about his family. He does not know Christ.

Conclusion: We are all from broken homes. All our homes are broken by sin. But let us create a spiritual appetite in our children and not make the same mistakes as Isaac and Rebekah. Thank God for His grace that will help us to be vessels of His grace instead of standing in the way!