



Life Group Study
God With Us (Isaac, Jacob, and His Sons—Genesis 25-36)

As we continue our study of Genesis, the book of beginnings, we see the focus changing. The first 11 chapters had all of humanity in view. Beginning in chapter 12, Abraham and his descendants became the focus. That trend continues in chapters 25 through 37 with Abraham's son, grandson, and great grandsons—the beginnings of the nation of Israel. This family and their descendants will be the focal point for the remainder of the Pentateuch.

As you read the following sections, try to identify God's fingerprints on the people involved and the situations they faced.

Read Genesis 25:19—28:9:

What main character traits can you identify in this text for the following people:

Isaac?

Rebekah?

Esau?

Jacob?

What similarities in actions do you see between Isaac and his father Abraham?

Identify the family dynamics you see between Isaac, Rebekah, Esau, and Jacob.

Read Genesis 28:10–37:36:

Why did Jacob leave home and where did he go?

How many children did Jacob have and what were their names?

What caused the breakdown in relationship between Joseph and Jacob's other sons?

How did Jacob's sons solve their "Joseph problem?"

This family was dysfunctional on many levels. In spite of their flaws, God accomplished His will through them.

What does this teach you about God? What does it teach you about yourself and your relationship with God?

In what areas of your life can you identify how God faithfully worked in the past to accomplish His will in spite of your challenges, character flaws, and shortcomings? How is He working in your life today? If you have trouble identifying how God is working in and through you, pray and ask Him to show you how and where He is at work in your life.