

REVIEW: Read Genesis 25:21-28.

- \*What is unique about Jacob and Esau's birth?
- \*What was the prophecy concerning their lives?
- \*At birth what was Esau covered in?
- \*How old was dad when they were born?
- \*What was unique about Esau's life?
- \*What was unique about Jacob's life?
- \*What stood out to you in the story?
- 1. As we piece the family puzzle together this message focused on "valuing differences," have you noticed there are people in our family who are "different" than us? Who is that person and how do they differ from you?
- 2. How have the differences affected your relationship positively or negatively? Explain
- 3. Read Genesis 25:27-28. You have to think that maybe just maybe Isaac the dad tried to get his boy Jacob to be a man of field like his brother Esau. Dad just might have tried to make his boy into himself. Question: Have you ever done what most of us do, try to make someone near to us...into us? And how has that worked out for you?
- 4. Read these two verses: Nehemiah 13:25 and Ezra 9:3-4. Both went about it "differently" but who was right in their approach? And why would you say that?

GOING DEEPER: Read ROMANS 12:3-8

- 1. Verse 4 teaches us that God has created us with different gifts abilities. Since this is true of all of us, back up and read verse 3. When it comes to differences, what is God telling us to avoid and why?
- 2. There are 7 gifts listed in Romans 12. We call these the "motivational gifts." It is the way God has made a believer to view life and behave in the manner in which they view that life. Verse 3 makes it clear that we can "devalue" people who are different than us. Think, who is that different family member: Sibling, parent, grandparent or child that you need to begin to value? And what is one practical way you can value them on a consistent basis?
- 3. BONUS JEOPARDY QUESTION: How are you different than others and has that ever led to people misunderstanding you? If so, how did it feel?

TAKING IT HOME: What is the one item spoken about tonight or on Sunday that you need to take home and put into practice in your life?

PRAYER REQUESTS: