

# GENESIS 26-50

## HANDOUT

### REPEATED COVENANT

<b>Gen. 26:3-4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spoken to <b>Isaac</b></li> <li>References Abraham's obedience</li> </ul>
<b>Gen. 28:13-14</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spoken to <b>Jacob</b></li> <li>Declares Lord as God of Abraham &amp; Isaac</li> <li>Personal address of promises to Jacob</li> </ul>
<b>Gen. 35:10-12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spoken to <b>Jacob</b></li> <li>Changes Jacob's name to Israel</li> <li>Promises land of Abraham &amp; Isaac to Israel (Jacob)</li> </ul>
<b>Gen. 46:2-4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spoken to <b>Jacob (Israel)</b></li> <li>Covenant confirmed again amidst direction to travel to Egypt</li> </ul>
<b>Gen. 48:3-5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jacob relaying the covenant promise to <b>Joseph</b></li> <li>Jacob adopts Joseph's sons (Ephraim &amp; Manasseh) as his own Birthright of Reuben given to Joseph's sons (1 Chron. 5:1)</li> <li>Sense that Joseph knew the covenant &amp; his role by carrying out plans in Egypt</li> </ul>

*How are you relaying the covenant to future generations?*

*How are you helping others encounter Jesus to hear the covenant truths? Each generation & individual needs to encounter Jesus personally!*

### FAMILY PATTERNS

<b>Deception</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Abraham</b> lied about Sarah to spare his own life</li> <li><b>Isaac</b> lied about Rebekah to spare his own life</li> <li><b>Jacob</b> lied to Isaac to receive firstborn blessing             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rebekah encouraged Jacob to deceive</li> <li>Laban (Abraham's family) lies to Jacob &amp; gives Leah instead of Rachel; changes wages continuously</li> <li>Jacob deceives Laban in departure</li> <li>Jacob lied to Esau about what way he's traveling</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Jacob's sons</b> deceive &amp; sell Joseph, never tell Jacob the truth             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dinah's brothers avenge her rape by deceiving Shechemites</li> <li>Judah fails to keep promise to Tamar</li> <li>Tamar deceives Judah to become pregnant</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Joseph</b> is a stark contrast, but still uses an element of deception to test his brothers' repentance before revealing himself as their brother</li> </ul>
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## FAMILY PATTERNS (continued)

<b>Favoritism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Isaac</b> favored Esau; <b>Rebekah</b> favored Jacob</li> <li>• <b>Jacob</b> favored Rachel over Leah</li> <li>• <b>Traditional favor</b> fell to eldest son</li> </ul>
<b>Idolatry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rachel</b> steals household idols of Laban</li> <li>• Jacob instructs <b>household</b> to get rid of idols</li> </ul>

*What family patterns are presenting themselves in your life & causing harm?  
Jesus is faithful to break such patterns and set your family on a right path!*

### GOD'S CHOOSING FOR BLESSING

The Lord is the One who chooses for blessing – not birth position, talents, societal rank, etc.

- Abraham
- Isaac over Ishmael
- Jacob over Esau
- Joseph over Reuben – *because Reuben defiled Jacob's marriage bed*
- Ephraim over Manasseh

*Don't be upset when God chooses to bless someone else. Notice that in nearly every circumstance, God stayed faithful to His covenant of increase and blessing, but God chose which servants He wished to use in particular ways.*

### SPIRITUAL DECLINE IN THE PATRIARCHAL AGE

*Chart by Dean Niforatos*

First Generation	Second Generation	Third Generation	Fourth Generation
<b>Abraham</b>	<b>Ishmael &amp; Isaac</b>	<b>Esau &amp; Jacob</b>	<b>Joseph &amp; Brothers</b>
<u>Abraham</u> : man of faith; believed God	<u>Ishmael</u> : not the son of promise  <u>Isaac</u> : called on God; believed God	<u>Esau</u> : unspiritual; little faith  <u>Jacob</u> : compromised at first; later committed to the Lord	<u>Joseph</u> : man of God; showed faith  <u>Brothers</u> : treachery, immorality, minimal separation from Canaanites
<u>Abraham</u> : built altars to God (Gen. 12:7-8; 13:4, 18; 22:9)	<u>Isaac</u> : built an altar to God (Gen. 26:25), rebuilt his dad's wells	<u>Jacob</u> : built altars to God (Gen. 33:20; 35:1, 3, 7)	No altars built to God
Personal encounter followed by commitment	Tendency to ride on shirt-tails of previous generation	Apart from personal encounter, views things as tradition & legalism	Apart from personal encounter, rejection of faith & morality

*In what generation do you find yourself? Where would you place your family? Where would you gauge society to be? Notice that in each generation it IS possible to encounter the Lord and have a solid relationship with Him, but there is a decline unless we maintain fervor and help future generations encounter the Lord for themselves.*

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