

**SERMON:** God's Unrelenting and Surprising Grace  
**SCRIPTURE:** Genesis 25

**SERIES:** Jacob: Seeking True Blessing  
**SPEAKER:** Pastor Mark

**THE GOAL:** The primary goal of a small group at Grace is to develop a Christian community where Jesus is experienced through the gospel.

**ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS:** Use these questions to explore how God is at work in our families, communities, workplaces, and church.

1. Where have you seen God at work in your life this week?
2. What temptations have you been facing this week? How is God delivering you?
3. How have you experienced God's grace this week?
4. In what ways are you growing in your love for God?
5. In what ways are you growing in your love for others?
6. Have you started or stopped something this week just because you love Jesus?

**REVIEW:** Use these questions to better understand and apply the passage/sermon.

**Observation:** as a group talk through and summarize the passage. Think through Who, What, Where, When, How, Why questions together.

**Interpretation:** answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?
2. What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?
3. What does this passage teach us about salvation/grace?
4. How does this passage point to Christ?

**Application:** answer these questions together:

1. How does this passage convict you? Encourage you? Inspire you?
2. What specific truth do you see about God (his grace? love? holiness?) and how would your life be different if you really believed it?
3. By God's grace, what commitments do you need to make this week? Or, what do you need to start obeying/believing?

**GO DEEPER:** Use these questions to go deeper into the passage, minds, and hearts.

1. Abraham lived by faith and died by faith. He trusted God's promises even for future generations. How about you? Where are you having a hard time trusting God's promises? Your family? Work? Our Nation? The World?
2. "God is with us in the struggles of life." How have you seen God's presence with you in previous trials? What can help you continue to trust God that he is with you now?
3. "God's ways are not our ways." God chooses Jacob not Esau to continue the line to the Messiah (Gen. 25:23). Does God's upside down nature of grace surprise you? Does God's choosing regardless of merit cause you frustration or comfort? (see Rom 9 if you want to explore this topic more in depth)
4. Esau sold his birthright for a bowl of lentil soup. Sin can cause us to forsake what has eternal value for momentary satisfaction. In what area(s) of life are you tempted to trade the eternal for the temporary? How can the gospel help you in the battle? (Hint: think of who Jesus is and what he accomplished)

Pray: Praise God that he saves by sheer grace. Confess ways that you have struggle to trust his promises. Ask God to reveal his love and grace to you more and so that you can delight in him more.