

SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"MY BROTHER IS DRIVING ME NUTS: JACOB AND ESAU" JULY 17 & 18

SERIES OVERVIEW:

You are NOT disqualified from real life with God, even though life is messy. Sometimes we fall into the trap of thinking we are beyond hope when we find ourselves battling the same sins and temptations. Having a clear understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus means that we are forgiven, walking in grace and NOT perfect. We are a work in progress, and so are the people around us. As we learn to know God better and better, He equips us with everything we need to live in His will and be pleasing in His sight. (Hebrews 13:21)

*Follow the directions below for a guided group discussion with a friend, in a family, small group, etc.
Grab a Scripture Card (printed or electronic) and simply follow steps from 1 to 6 on this page and the next.*

1

OPENING PRAYER:

About 2 minutes

Ask a volunteer to open in prayer. Consider reading Psalm 139:1-18 as part of the opening prayer.

2

BIG IDEA:

About 1 minute to read

Too often our insecurities are driven deeper by playing the comparison game. Family dynamics can get pretty dicey when we believe we are not enough or we want something that doesn't belong to us. Jacob and Esau's lives were marked by manipulation and strife. What might have happened instead if they both appreciated each other for who they were and God's unique call on their lives?

3

INTRO QUESTION:

About 10 minutes

Share words of affirmation:
Chose one person in the group and share one thing about them that you appreciate.
Continue until each person in the group has received an affirmation.



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One day when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau arrived home from the wilderness exhausted and hungry. - Genesis 25:29 NLT

Reflect

Read the full passage in your Bible - Genesis 25:21-34.

What word or phrase is the Holy Spirit highlighting from the scripture reading?

What might God be calling you to repent of or realign in your life?

What would acting upon this or obeying God look like? Be curious...and then do it.



DISCUSSION HELP:

Use follow-up questions to take the discussion deeper. Guide answers to be honest and real.

Can you say more about that?

How have you seen that play out in your life?

What does that stir up in you?

Has anyone else had a similar thought or experience?

What might God be inviting you to do?

4

SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION

About 40-45 minutes

Read the entire scripture passage aloud as a group and discuss the questions on the card above. Use the [Discussion Help sidebar](#) to encourage deeper discussion.

See more of Jacob and Esau's story in Genesis 27:1-45. What unhealthy dynamics do you see here?





What kinds of difficulties can comparing ourselves to others lead to? How might looking at your life through the lens of a good Heavenly Father who created you and wants good things for you, change the way you see yourself?

5 LIVE IT OUT:

About 3 minutes

Read this section aloud. Invite the group to take the steps suggested. Discuss next time what the Lord revealed to you in this reflection time.

TAKE IT DEEPER

Live It Out

*Look up Isaiah 43:1 and Psalm 139:14 in the NLT.
Every day this week meditate on these, on the truth.
Practice speaking these verses (speaking the truth) over yourself. Invite a trusted friend to do this as well.
Check in with each other and encourage each other to keep at it.*

Pray

Share with God the image that you have of yourself, including any ways that you struggle to be OK with how he made you.

Ask God to speak his perspective, his truth over you each day this week, and to help you receive it.

Thank God for making you in his image, for calling you his own.

6

CLOSING GROUP PRAYER:

About 15 minutes

Read the prayer section on the card aloud, and take a moment of silence for each person to reflect on the prayer prompt personally.

Share prayer requests and pray for each other in pairs. Use Isaiah 43:1 as a prayer of blessing over your prayer partner inserting your partner's name in place of Jacob and Israel.