

Pause and Count the Cost

Thrive

Genesis 25:19-34

Genesis 25:19

This is the account of the family of Isaac, the son of Abraham.

Genesis 25:20

**When Isaac was forty years old,
he married Rebekah, the
daughter of Bethuel the Aramean
from Paddan-aram and the sister
of Laban the Aramean.**

Genesis 25:21

Isaac pleaded with the Lord on behalf of his wife, because she was unable to have children.

The Lord answered Isaac's prayer, and Rebekah became pregnant with twins.

Genesis 25:22

But the two children struggled with each other in her womb. So she went to ask the Lord about it. “Why is this happening to me?” she asked.

Genesis 25:23

And the Lord told her, “The sons in your womb will become two nations. From the very beginning, the two nations will be rivals. One nation will be stronger than the other; and your older son will serve your younger son.”

Genesis 25:24

And when the time came to give birth, Rebekah discovered that she did indeed have twins!

Genesis 25:25

The first one was very red at birth and covered with thick hair like a fur coat. So they named him Esau.

Genesis 25:26

Then the other twin was born with his hand grasping Esau's heel. So they named him Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when the twins were born.

Genesis 25:27

As the boys grew up, Esau became a skillful hunter. He was an outdoorsman, but Jacob had a quiet temperament, preferring to stay at home.

Genesis 25:28

Isaac loved Esau because he enjoyed eating the wild game Esau brought home, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Genesis 25:29

One day when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau arrived home from the wilderness exhausted and hungry.

Genesis 25:30

Esau said to Jacob, “I’m starved!
Give me some of that red stew!”

(This is how Esau got his other
name, Edom, which means “red.”)

Genesis 25:31

“All right,” Jacob replied, “but trade me your rights as the firstborn son.”

Genesis 25:32

“Look, I’m dying of starvation!”
said Esau. “What good is my
birthright to me now?”

Genesis 25:33

But Jacob said, “First you must swear that your birthright is mine.” So Esau swore an oath, thereby selling all his rights as the firstborn to his brother, Jacob.

Genesis 25:34

Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and lentil stew. Esau ate the meal, then got up and left. He showed contempt for his rights as the firstborn.

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Genesis 25:19-34

Principle #1

Pain, suffering, and brokenness are all past, present, and future realities that we must learn to embrace so that we can place them at the feet of the King.

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Principle #1

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Principle #2

A bad decision made in a moment of intense emotion, without regard for the long term damage it will cause, often comes from unhealthy or uncontrolled appetites, desires, feelings, or fears.

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Principle #2

A bad decision made in a moment of intense emotion, without regard for the long term damage it will cause, often comes from unhealthy or uncontrolled appetites, desires, feelings, or fears.

Principle #3

The emotionally charged bad decisions we make that we know better than to make and which we know will cause long term damage, can often be traced back to excruciatingly deep pain, suffering, or brokenness.

Principle #4

If you allow the Holy Spirit to help you pause and count the cost in emotionally charged situations, you will be able to view the conflict, offence, sin, or situation from an eternal perspective.

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But Jacob said, “First you must swear that your birthright is mine.” So Esau swore an oath, thereby selling all his rights as the firstborn to his brother, Jacob.

Principle #5

If you allow the Holy Spirit to help you pause and count the cost in emotionally charged situations, you will be better positioned to usher more of the Kingdom into your life and into the lives of those all around you.

Principle #6

If you allow the Holy Spirit to help you pause and count the cost in emotionally charged situations, you will be better able to care for all that the Lord has given you.

Genesis 25:34

Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and lentil stew. Esau ate the meal, then got up and left. He showed contempt for his rights as the firstborn.

Principle #7

The temporary satisfaction you experience from a bad decision made in a moment of overwhelming emotion never satisfies and never lasts.

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