

Grades 7-12

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[Previous Lessons](#)

Ephesians 4:31-32

31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.
32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Our Wednesday night Youth Life Skills classes with Tom are back!

Come out for fun,
fellowship and maybe
even a little learning
about topics important
to you.

7:00pm every
Wednesday night only
at LWA!



The Thread

Discovering The Thread of the Gospel Through The Big-Picture Story of the Bible

Grades 7-12 - Sundays @ 9:15 & 11:00

Greetings!

This week, we looked at an example of what happens when God's people take matters into their own hands without knowing the whole story or seeing the "big picture".

We had a discussion about how difficult it is to put the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle together correctly without being able to see the picture on the box showing what it should look like. We said it's similar to us trying to fit the pieces of our life together on our own without seeing God's "big picture" plan.

We looked at the story of Isaac's sons Jacob and Esau (Abraham's grandsons) in **Genesis 25 and 27** as a Biblical example of what happens when we don't trust God to keep His promises and we try to do it on our own instead without seeing God's "big picture" plan.

We learned that while God had promised Isaac's wife, Rebekah, that their younger son, Jacob, would be blessed to fulfill God's promise to Abraham, Rebekah lost faith that God would fulfill that promise and decided to do it on her own.

When Rebekah overheard her husband, Isaac, telling their older son, Esau, that he would receive his father's blessing, she hatched an elaborate plan, with Jacob, to deceive her husband and trick him into blessing Jacob instead.

We discussed the lies and deceptions required to pull off the plan and agreed that one lie always leads to another and then another and another in order to keep the original lie.

At the end of the story we see that Jacob did indeed receive the

blessing as God had promised Rebekah before he was even born but their lies and deception led to Jacob having to go into hiding for fear of being killed by his brother Esau.

We said that through God's love and mercy, He will always keep His promises regardless of our actions. Jacob received what God promised but the consequence of being in fear for his life was a direct result of he and his mother's actions and were not part of God's plan for them. So, even though God will always keep his promise with us, we can still mess it up by our own actions.

For our New Testament study we turned to **Romans 8:26-28** where we learned that the Holy Spirit helps us pray when we don't know what to pray for and also that in **ALL** things God works for our good according to His purpose.

According to God's purpose (His glory), God will always work for our good in everything even when we mess up.

This lesson shows us that we need to always trust God to provide for us by **His power**, in **His time** and in **His way**.

We need to also remember that when we pray, our prayers may not always be answered the way WE think they should be but will always be answered the way God means for them to be for our ultimate good and for His glory.

When we lose faith and try to do things our own way, as Rebekah and Jacob did, and we act outside of God's will, we can corrupt God's blessing for us and end up not receiving the full benefit of His promises.

We finished with a **challenge** to deliberately give God a situation in our own lives and allow Him to handle it in His way, in His power and in His time.

This doesn't mean that we just sit back and wait for something to happen. Doing things God's way always involves prayer, listening to the Holy Spirit and also usually involves some sort of action on our part but it is our action according to His will and not always what we think it should be. In this way, we will receive the full benefit of God's blessing for us.

Join us next time as we take a look at the life of Joseph and his brothers and find more evidence of God's love and mercy.

Winter Jam - FRIDAY!!!



Winter Jam 2015 Promo

Concert is FRIDAY, November 6th. We will be leaving LWA by 3:30pm as a group.

Please be ready to leave LWA by 3:30. If you have any questions, concerns or other issues you can call or text Chris at 602-684-1820.

We do have several open spots for any last minute additions. If you would like to join us, you need to call or text Chris at 602-684-1820 to see what is available.

Follow [THIS LINK](#) for a list of artists performing.

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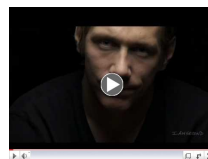
FX15-BeU Youth Conference!

Prepare yourself for the biggest most exciting FREE Youth Conference ever!

Saturday November 14th
at Living Word in Mesa

Lots of fun activities for Junior High and High School students with amazing guest speakers and performers. Invite all of your friends!

Youth FX has been combined to 1 epic night Sat. Nov. 14th Pro-skater Brian Sumner & special guest speakers, MMA demo, Trailer w/ramps, DJ, raffle, food & fun!!! All starting at 5pm!!!



Check out our [Facebook Page](#) For more information!

"Glow" Mini Golf

Mark your calendars for a fun night of indoor "glow" mini golf on **Saturday, November 21st.**

Meet at LWA at 6:30pm, golf from 7-9pm then return to LWA for pick-up at 9:30pm.

Cost is \$10

Bible verses referenced in this lesson: Genesis 25:19-28, Genesis 27:1-45, Romans 8:26-28

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed Week,

Chris & Michelle Miller

1 Youth Ministry