



I. INTRO/REVIEW

A. Because

- The “I am” is powerless without the “because”

Hebrews 13:5-6 (VOICE)⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have because He has said, “I will never leave you; I will always be by your side.”⁶ Because of this promise, we may boldly say, The Lord is my help— I won’t be afraid of anything How can anyone harm me?

B. We’re all a part of a family

- Birth orders and interesting
- And apples often don’t fall far from the tree

C. Regardless of your birth order we all have

- An identity – who I am
- A heredity – who I belong to
- My dignity- What’s my purpose-
- My destiny- where am I headed

II. THE BIRTHRIGHT

A. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob

- In most cultures the oldest male inherits the birthright and that’s especially true in Jewish culture.

B. It’s twins!

Genesis 25:24-26 (GNT)²⁴ The time came for her to give birth, and she had twin sons.²⁵ The first one was reddish, and his skin was like a hairy robe, so he was named Esau.²⁶ The second one was born holding on tightly to the heel of Esau, so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when they were born.

- Names denotes ownership
 - Esau means – hairy
 - Jacob means – schemer or liar

Genesis 25:27-31 (GNT)²⁷ The boys grew up, and Esau became a skilled hunter, a man who loved the outdoors, but Jacob was a quiet man who stayed at home.²⁸ Isaac preferred Esau, because he enjoyed eating the animals Esau killed, but Rebecca preferred Jacob.²⁹ One day while Jacob was cooking some bean soup, Esau came in from hunting. He was hungry³⁰ and said to Jacob, “I’m starving; give me some of that red stuff.”³¹ Jacob answered, “I will give it to you if you give me your rights as the first-born son.”

- A bad deal gets worse



Genesis 25:32-34 (GNT) ³² Esau said, “All right! I am about to die; what good will my rights do me?”³³ Jacob answered, “First make a vow that you will give me your rights. Esau made the vow and gave his rights to Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave him some bread and some of the soup. He ate and drank and then got up and left. That was all Esau cared about his rights as the first-born son.

- Esau made a poor choice based on an emotion and pressure
- A disconnect from God blurs my birthright

C. Know who you belong to

Hebrews 12:16-17 (TPT) ¹⁶ Be careful that no one among you lives in immorality, becoming careless about God’s blessings, like Esau who traded away his rights as the firstborn for a simple meal. ¹⁷ And we know that later on when he wanted to inherit his father’s blessing, he was turned away, even though he begged for it with bitter tears, for it was too late then to repent.

D. I’m an heir of God

Galatians 4:5-7 ⁵ God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children. ⁶ And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, “Abba, Father.” ⁷ Now you are no longer a slave but God’s own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.

- You’re not just a child of God, you’re an heir with the rights of a first born son

IV. INSTEAD

A. There’s always an “instead”

Isaiah 61:3,6-7(NIV) to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor. ⁶ And you will be called priests of the LORD, you will be named ministers of our God. You will feed on the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast ⁷ Instead of your shame you will receive a double portion, and instead of disgrace you will rejoice in your inheritance. And so you will inherit a double portion in your land, and everlasting joy will be yours.

- Your inheritance is not based on of who you were, or what you’ve done
- Your inheritance is simply based on Jesus!