



**The Power of a Father!**  
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Jacob—the patriarch of Israel—the father of a nation—is a troubling character in the Old Testament. He is so much like us—with very human strengths and weaknesses, but a man with a striving for spiritual things. From this imperfect man we learn important lessons of faith. Especially, we learn about God's grace. Time to engage—enjoy the Adventure!

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Highland Colony Men's Roundtable  
[www.MensTable.com](http://www.MensTable.com)

THE POWER OF A FATHER – Jacob as a Model

March 02, 2023

We need an understanding of mature masculinity—a vision and direction to help us become Godly men

**Bible Verses:** Genesis 25:19-34; Galatians 6:6-10; I Corinthians 13:11-13

**Music:** Jeremy Camp - Father - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akVK91ZY4XQ>

**Video:** Show Me The Father Trailer - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AJvi-wAsjKI>

**Resources:** JACOB – Following God Without Looking Back by Gene A. Getz.

Raising A Modern-Day Knight – A Father's Role in Guiding His Son to Authentic Manhood by Robert Lewis.

## The Power of a Father – Meet Jacob – Genesis 25:21-18.

- \_\_\_\_\_ → Jacob is largely regarded an unrighteous man. He was no saint, until God got hold of his life. Even that took a wrestling match!
- \_\_\_\_\_ → Jacob possessed an uncommon amount of that common characteristic. For most of his life, he was determined to have his way. If necessary, he would lie, cheat, and steal to accomplish that—a “deceiver,” his brother called him. Sound familiar? Jacob is like looking at myself in the mirror—extraordinarily personal and painful!
- \_\_\_\_\_ → By painting an honest picture of a dishonest man like Jacob—warts and all—God goes to the heart of our human experience. He shows us life in the raw—and how His grace and power operate in the midst of it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ → Jacob is an amazing story of God's grace. He left home, running for his life because his brother, Esau, wanted to kill him. But God in His love and grace appeared to Jacob in a dream at Bethel, which led to his own story of being born-again.
- \_\_\_\_\_ → Jacob spent over 20 years living a miserable life. Though he married, he ended up with two wives—which was a marital disaster. Though he was a wealthy man, he never attained happiness and fulfillment—until he came back home and made things right with his brother and his father. It was then that he finally took charge of his whole household and became the spiritual leader God intended him to be. God will discipline us—not because He wants to punish us because He loves us. Only God can turn the ashes of our lives into something beautiful (Galatians 6:6-10).

## The Power of a Father – We Need to be Fathered! -- I Corinthians 13:11

- \_\_\_\_\_ → Our culture is in deep trouble, and at the heart of its trouble is its loss of a vision for manhood. It's difficult to know how to maintain our masculine balance in this “gender-neutral” culture.
- \_\_\_\_\_ :
  - What is a man?
  - What processes produce a man?
  - How do you know when you've become a man?
- \_\_\_\_\_ → Where does a boy go to find a manly sense of himself? Who confers upon him the title and responsibilities of manhood? Over the last few decades, this culture has steadily and relentlessly undermined healthy notions of what it means to be a man. Manhood is no longer a unique calling; it's now seem more as a problem to be overcome.
- \_\_\_\_\_ → Many men today are searching for their true masculine identity. The *best hope* lies in the hearts of fathers. We need to understand the journey—the process that calls sons to be godly men—a passage from boy to man. We need to know the *how*!

## ACTION: Journal This!

- What stories of your Father do you carry—stories of pain, or healing?
- How have you been “fathered” by someone other than your Father?
- Who have you helped to become a better man?

**"Father" by Jeremy Camp**

I cover up the pain that I'm lost in  
'Cause I wanna be enough and it's exhausting  
Trying so hard but really I'm just wearing my heart out  
And I find myself right on the verge of a breakdown

Then You hold me in Your hands  
Remind me who You are and who I am

I was born broken so You can make me whole  
I'll bring my dirt and let You wash over me like water (Oh-oh-oh-oh)  
I was born to need You, to wipe the tears I cry  
Yes, You made me a child so You could be my Father  
I'm Your child and You're my Father (Oh-oh-oh-oh)

Even when I'm lost and I don't feel found  
When humans are human and they let me down  
You're still my Father

I was born broken so You can make me whole  
I'll bring my dirt and let You wash over me like water (Oh-oh-oh-oh)  
I was born to need You, to wipe the tears I cry  
Yes, You made me a child so You could be my Father  
I'm Your child and You're my Father (Oh-oh-oh-oh)

You lead me, protect me, bring me home  
I'm weak and afraid but You never let go  
And I don't have to hide 'cause You already know  
Already know  
You're still my Father (Oh-oooh)

I was born broken so You can make me whole  
I'll bring my dirt and let You wash over me like water (Oh-oh-oh-oh)  
I was born to need You, to wipe the tears I cry  
Yes, You made me a child so You could be my Father (Father)  
I'm Your child and You're my Father (Oh-oh-oh-oh)  
I'm Your child and-

**Bible Verses – The Message**

**Genesis 25:19-34 - 19** This is the family tree of Isaac son of Abraham: Abraham had Isaac.**20** Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan Aram. She was the sister of Laban the Aramean.**21** Isaac prayed hard to God for his wife because she was barren. God answered his prayer and Rebekah became pregnant.**22** But the children tumbled and kicked inside her so much that she said, "If this is the way it's going to be, why go on living?" She went to God to find out what was going on.**23** God told her, Two nations are in your womb, two peoples butting heads while still in your body. One people will overpower the other, and the older will serve the younger.**24** When her time to give birth came, sure enough, there were twins in her womb.**25** The first came out reddish, as if snugly wrapped in a hairy blanket; they named him Esau (Hairy).**26** His brother followed, his fist clutched tight to Esau's heel; they named him Jacob (Heel). Isaac was sixty years old when they were born.**27** The boys grew up. Esau became an expert hunter, an outdoorsman. Jacob was a quiet man preferring life indoors among the tents.**28** Isaac loved Esau because he loved his game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.**29** One day Jacob was cooking a stew. Esau came in from the field, starved.**30** Esau said to Jacob, "Give me some of that red stew - I'm starved!" That's how he came to be called Edom (Red).**31** Jacob said, "Make me a trade: my stew for your rights as the firstborn."**32** Esau said, "I'm starving! What good is a birthright if I'm dead?"**33** Jacob said, "First, swear to me." And he did it. On oath Esau traded away his rights as the firstborn.**34** Jacob gave him bread and the stew of lentils. He ate and drank, got up and left. That's how Esau shrugged off his rights as the firstborn.

**Galatians 6:6-10 - 6** Be very sure now, you who have been trained to a self-sufficient maturity, that you enter into a generous common life with those who have trained you, sharing all the good things that you have and experience.**7** Don't be misled: No one makes a fool of God. What a person plants, he will harvest. The person who plants selfishness, ignoring the needs of others - ignoring God! -**8** harvests a crop of weeds. All he'll have to show for his life is weeds! But the one who plants in response to God, letting God's Spirit do the growth work in him, harvests a crop of real life, eternal life.**9** So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up, or quit.**10** Right now, therefore, every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all, starting with the people closest to us in the community of faith.

**I Corinthians 13:11-13 - 11** When I was an infant at my mother's breast, I gurgled and cooed like any infant. When I grew up, I left those infant ways for good. **12** We don't yet see things clearly. We're squinting in a fog, peering through a mist. But it won't be long before the weather clears and the sun shines bright! We'll see it all then, see it all as clearly as God sees us, knowing him directly just as he knows us! **13** But for right now, until that completeness, we have three things to do to lead us toward that consummation: Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love.



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