



Brotherly Shove (Jacob & Esau)

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Stepping Stones Community Church

Jacob & Esau... and God

1. The brothers fight

- Before, during and after their birth
- Over inheritance and blessing from dad

²⁴ And when the time came to give birth, Rebekah discovered that she did indeed have twins! ²⁵ The first one was very red at birth and covered with thick hair like a fur coat. So they named him Esau. Then the other twin was born with his hand grasping Esau's heel. So they named him Jacob. **Genesis 25:24-26 NLT**

2. The brothers reunite many years later

- Jacob humbles himself and makes peace
- Jacob takes God as his own

³ Then Jacob sent messengers ahead to his brother, Esau, who was living in the region of Seir in the land of Edom. ⁴ He told them, "Give this message to my master Esau: 'Humble greetings from your servant Jacob. Until now I have been living with Uncle Laban, ⁵ and now I own cattle, donkeys, flocks of sheep and goats, and many servants, both men and women. I have sent these messengers to inform my lord of my coming, hoping that you will be friendly to me.'" ⁶ After delivering the message, the messengers returned to Jacob and reported, "We met your brother, Esau, and he is already on his way to meet you—with an army of 400 men!" ⁷ Jacob was terrified at the news. **Genesis 32:3-7 NLT**

⁹ Then Jacob prayed, "O God of my grandfather Abraham, and God of my father, Isaac—O LORD, you told me, 'Return to your own land and to your relatives.' And you promised me, 'I will treat you kindly.'" ¹⁰ I am not worthy of all the unfailing love and faithfulness you have shown to me, your servant. When I left home and crossed the Jordan River, I owned nothing except a walking stick. Now my household fills two large camps! ¹¹ O LORD, please rescue me from the hand of my brother, Esau. I am afraid that he is coming to attack me, along with my wives and children. ¹² But you promised me, 'I will surely treat you kindly, and I will multiply your descendants until they become as numerous as the sands along the seashore—too many to count.'"

Genesis 32:9-12 NLT

¹ Then Jacob looked up and saw Esau coming with his 400 men. So he divided the children among Leah, Rachel, and his two servant wives. ² He put the servant wives and their children at the front, Leah and her children next, and Rachel and Joseph last. ³ Then Jacob went on ahead. As he approached his brother, he bowed to the ground seven times before him. ⁴ Then Esau ran to meet him and embraced him, threw his arms around his neck, and kissed him. And they both wept. **Genesis 33:1-4 NLT**

And there he built an altar and named it El-Elohe-Israel.

Genesis 33:20 NLT

Next Steps:

- Re-read today's Bible story (Genesis 32-33)
- Stop fighting with _____
- Humble myself, and seek restoration and peace in my relationship with _____
- Declare that God is my God, El-Elohe-_____
- _____
- _____