

Mother's Day Sermon 2019 - website notes for podcast

We all understand the idea of wanting the outcome before putting in the effort! human nature!

My "spiritual experience"...God woke me up one morning in March, 5:27am...spoke clearly: **Don't be an Esau. Don't trade your birthright.**

Read Gen 25:1b-34

This is the account of the family line of Abraham's son Isaac. Abraham became the father of Isaac, 20 and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah daughter of Bethuel the Aramean from Paddan Aram and sister of Laban the Aramean. 21 Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was childless. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant. 22 The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, "Why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the LORD. 23 The LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; **one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger." 24 When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. 25 The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. 26 After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when Rebekah gave birth to them. 27 **The boys grew up, and Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the open country, while Jacob was content to stay at home among the tents. 28 Isaac, who had a taste for wild game, loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.****

29 Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished. 30 He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!" (That is why he was also called Edom.) 31 Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright." 32 "Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?" 33 But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob. 34 Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. **So Esau despised his birthright.**

What is the birthright?

= double portion given to the firstborn son = came with a special blessing
= it was the portion of his father's wealth that rightfully belonged to him; it was the resources that would allow him to oversee, lead and provide for the whole family
= represented his responsibility, oversight, legacy, impact, influence

v. 34 So Esau despised his birthright.
Don't be an Esau. Don't trade your birthright.

Despised = under value, resented, threw it away, shirked it off, find intolerable, contempt for

Read journal entry!!

On this Mother's Day, I really feel to share this word which I believe God gave to me not just as a personal word but for our church!

Don't be an Esau. Don't trade your birthright.

What are you trading your birthright for?

What natural appetites, momentary satisfactions are you seeking that cause you to under value the calling of God on your life?

What "soft decisions" are you making that are easy....but over time are causing you to trade your birthright?

What are you supposed to be walking in, putting your hand to...that you just keep putting off or making excuses about?

What influence and impact are you trading away for the ease and convenience of an easier path?

Your fullest life is lived in walking in the blessings and carrying out the birthright

This side of the cross, through the work of Jesus Christ on our behalf, we are all firstborn sons and daughters!!!

Let it not be said of me "Vannessa despised her birthright"

TRANSITION: What are some of the hallmarks of a person who is walking in the fullness of the birthright look like?

birthright living....

1. Principled living

- Esau was hungry...his PHYSICAL appetite drove him to undervalue what had been rightfully given to him

- he satisfied that appetite the wrong way, at the wrong time, in the wrong place with the wrong people
- there is NOTHING wrong with being hungry!
- God's Word must be my pattern, determine by priorities

1 Cor. 9:24 NIV

24. Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? **Run in such a way as to get the prize.** **25** Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. **26** Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. **27** No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

Message

You've all been to the stadium and seen the athletes race. Everyone runs; one wins. Run to win.

25 All good athletes train hard. They do it for a gold medal that tarnishes and fades. You're after one that's gold eternally.

26 *I don't know about you, but I'm running hard for the finish line. I'm giving it everything I've got. No sloppy living for me!*

27 I'm staying alert and in top condition. I'm not going to get caught napping, telling everyone else all about it and then missing out myself.

Is there sloppy living, running aimlessly that could be robbing you of walking out your birthright? NOT ABOUT SPEED BUT ABOUT FOCUS!

maybe for you it is time in God's Word, worship, prayer, fasting, gathering, relationship, reaching, accountability, rest, generosity, stewardship or service.....

Heb. 12:1

A huge cloud of witnesses is all around us. So let us **throw off everything that stands in our way.** Let us throw off any sin that holds on to us so tightly. Let us keep on running the race marked out for us.

Plug PRAXIS....pathways! Do a personal assessment....rate yourself, do these pathways define my priorities and determine the pattern which I am following?

Have I despised the responsibility, influence, impact my life is supposed to have by carrying out the birthright?

2nd hallmark of Birthright Living that I want to touch on after PRINCIPLED LIVING is....

2. Purpose living

- the reality is that living for a great purpose can often feel heavy! but the truth is that we are all created to bear a yoke

Mt. 11:30 – “For my yoke fits perfectly and the burden I give you is light”

- Implication#1 - you will carry a burden
- Implication #2 – you were custom designed to carry this burden – you were made for it, it cannot break you!! cannot slow you down...it IS your purpose!

- get into trouble when we begin looking at other’s people’s “design” and “burden”

- “if only I had her design...her family, her finances, her job, her kids, her upbringing, her home, her education, her body, her skin...”

PREACH!

- **the weight of my yoke, the weight of my birthright is what ends up bringing purpose to my life!!! it will NOT break you because you were custom designed to bear it! It is your purpose!**

Example: **boats are vessels that float on water!!!**

my family’s boat...10 people, 2 large coolers of bottled water, extra sweet iced tea, coke in a bottle and gatorade, towels and sunscreen...serious snacks

boats at NN Naval Shipyard...floating vessels called aircraft carriers...basically floating cities!!

- 5-6,000 people (18,000 meals served/day)
- 2 nuclear reactors, 7 decks with a superstructure on flight deck
- 23 stories high from the keel to the top of the mast
- 82 aircraft stowed on board, 4.5 acres of flight deck
- Nimitz can stock at least 70 days of refrigerated and dry goods.
- Several tons of laundry is washed every day
- Nimitz’s two barber shops trim more than 1,500 heads per week.
- Nimitz can hold 3.5 million gallons of fuel.

Our family’s boat v. aircraft carrier...different purposes...no one in here would even compare these 2 “boats”uniquely designed for different purposes...**can’t compare purposes!**

Don’t despise (under value/resent/shirk off) your yoke! It is your purpose