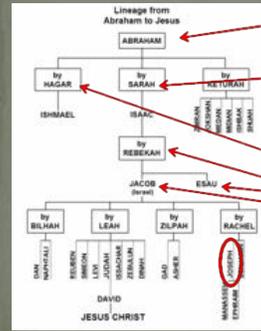


Joseph: A First-Person Narrative (Gen. 37-50)

Righteous and Effective In Spite of a
Dysfunctional Family

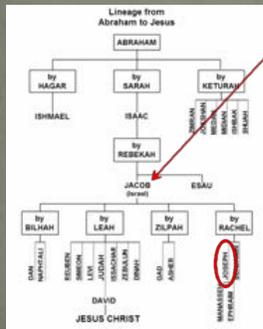


A Dysfunctional Family



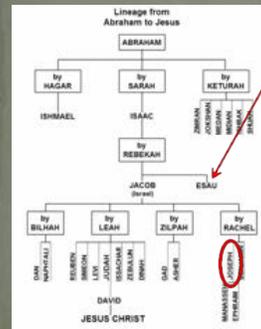
- Great Grandpa Abraham
 - Idolater (Joshua 24:2)
 - Told wife, Sara, to lie to save his life (Gen. 12:13)
 - Complained to God b/c no offspring (15:2)
 - Slept with wife's servant, Hagar (16:4)
- Great Grandma Rebekah
 - Loved Jacob more than Esau (25:28)
 - Schemed husband Isaac: son's birthright (27:5-)
 - Barren (25:21)

A Dysfunctional Family



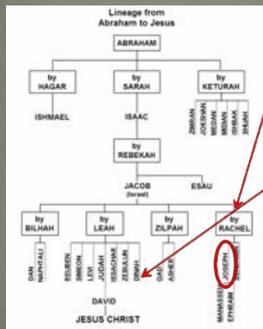
- Jacob
 - Bought brother Esau's birthright for bowl of stew (25:33)
 - Conspired with mom to steal Esau's blessing (27:6-)
 - Had children w/ 4 wives (29:1-30:24)
 - Loved me, Joseph, more than other sons, and gave me "coat of many colors" (37:3)
 - Trust issue with 10/12 sons (37:14)
- Esau

A Dysfunctional Family



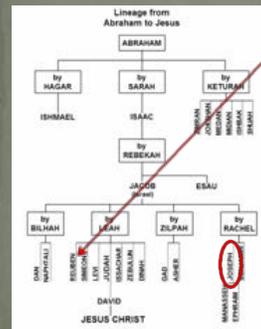
- Esau
 - Immoral, man of the world
 - "Hated" my dad (27:41) and wanted to kill dad
- Laban
 - Deceived dad re: Leah
 - Forced 14 years of labor (29:27)
 - Paid unfair wages to dad (31:3)
 - Pursued mom and dad to murder them

A Dysfunctional Family



- Mom Rachel
 - Barren (30:1)
 - Stole her dad's idols (31:19), then concealed theft from dad
 - Died in childbirth (35:18) (Benjamin)
- Half-Sister Dinah
 - Raped by Shechem, but dad did nothing (34:5)
 - Simeon and Levi lied to Shechem's men re: circumcision, then murdered ALL men in their town (34:25)

A Dysfunctional Family



- Reuben
 - Slept with step-mom, Bilhah (35:22)
- Brothers
 - Hated me b/c of dad's favoritism (37:4)
 - Hated dad b/c of favoritism
 - Conspired to kill me (37:18)
 - Threw me in a pit to drown
 - Sold me as a slave (37:28)
 - Lied to dad that I died by fierce animal (37:32)

A Dysfunctional Family Indeed!

- Idolaters
- Weak leaders
- Complainers
- Adulterers
- Polygamists
- Liars
- Barrenness
- Thieves
- Partial parents
- Selfish
- Distrusting
- Favoritism to children
- Children hated parents
- Children wanted to kill parents
- Unfair wages
- Forced labor
- Stole from parents
- Mom dies in childbirth
- Sister raped
- Brothers murder all men in town
- Incest
- Attempted murder of brother
- Sold as slave

Application

- How is your family dysfunctional?
- How has your family held you back?
- How can you act differently tomorrow, given Joseph's response to his family's tragedies?