

Genesis 25:19-28 New Living Translation

The Births of Esau and Jacob

19 This is the account of the family of Isaac, the son of Abraham. **20** When Isaac was forty years old, he married Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean from Paddan-aram and the sister of Laban the Aramean. **21** Isaac pleaded with the Lord on behalf of his wife, because she was unable to have children. The Lord answered Isaac's prayer, and Rebekah became pregnant with twins. **22** But the two children struggled with each other in her womb. So she went to ask the Lord about it. "Why is this happening to me?" she asked. **23** And the Lord told her, "The sons in your womb will become two nations. From the very beginning, the two nations will be rivals. One nation will be stronger than the other; and your older son will serve your younger son." **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.^[a] **26** Then the other twin was born with his hand grasping Esau's heel. So they named him Jacob.^[b] Isaac was sixty years old when the twins were born. **27** As the boys grew up, Esau became a skillful hunter. He was an outdoorsman, but Jacob had a quiet temperament, preferring to stay at home. **28** Isaac loved Esau because he enjoyed eating the wild game Esau brought home, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Footnotes:

- a **25:25** *Esau* sounds like a Hebrew term that means "hair."
b **25:26** *Jacob* sounds like the Hebrew words for "heel" and "deceiver."

Questions

1. Who is Isaac's father?
2. What did Isaac do when his wife Rebekah could not have children?
3. Have you ever pleaded with God for something or someone? Explain.
4. Who did Rebekah ask about about the struggle in her womb?
What was the answer?
5. Do you every ask God why something is happening to you?
What kind of answers do you get?
6. Who loved Easu and who loved Jacob and why?
What do you think will be the result of this? Explain.