

The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- Are you more like your father or mother?
- If you have children, are they more like you or your spouse?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)**Intro:**

- **Remember** what your group talked about last time you met. How have you changed since then?
- **Review** the notes you took on Sunday. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you heard?
- **Read** Genesis 27:1-40 together. In the message on Sunday, Pastor Pat cautioned us with three results of taking matters into our own hands.
- Got kids in your group? Watch this [creative version](https://youtu.be/7pfZsmyjC64) of the story (<https://youtu.be/7pfZsmyjC64>).

If you live your life taking matters into your own hands:**1. You'll demonstrate your mistrust in God rather than trust in Him**

1. Quickly review the way the characters in this story demonstrated their mistrust in God.
2. Chuck Swindoll said, "You're in trouble when God's help is nice but not necessary." What is happening in your life right now that would completely fail if God were somehow removed?
3. Talk about a situation this week in which you already know you will be tempted to take matters into your own hands. What might be the consequences if you don't trust God?

2. You'll live by your senses rather than by the Spirit

1. Isaac gives us an example of someone who, in this story, was controlled by his senses and feelings. Why is it dangerous to base our decisions completely on feelings? See Jeremiah 17:9
2. Talk about some of the decisions you have made in the last two weeks. Looking back, which of those decisions were based on feelings and which were based on the Holy Spirit's leading?
3. What are some areas in our culture where we find the philosophy, "If it feels good, do it"? Does that same philosophy appear in your life?

3. You'll follow wisdom from beneath rather than wisdom from above

1. Read James 3:13-17. In general, what motivates the choices you make?
2. How do you usually respond to the truth of God's Word?
 1. With humility - realizing that you need to yield, repent, and turn from your own understanding.
 2. With pride - making excuses for your decisions, scheming to get your way, ignoring truth.
3. Who do you relate most to in this story? Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, or Esau?

PRAY WITH EACH OTHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that we will trust the Lord in even the simple decisions this week.
- Pray that we will rely on the leading of God's Word and the Spirit instead of our own feelings.
- Pray that we will pursue God's wisdom in our marriages, jobs, relationships, and passions.

