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<sup>24</sup>When her days to give birth were completed, behold, there were twins in her womb. <sup>25</sup>The first came out red, all his body like a hairy cloak, so they called his name Esau. <sup>26</sup>Afterward his brother came out with his hand holding Esau's heel, so his name was called Jacob.

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Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. <sup>27</sup>When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, dwelling in tents. <sup>28</sup>Isaac loved Esau because he ate of his game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

—Genesis 25:24-28 ESV

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Jacob: Exposing Deceit

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<sup>29</sup>Once when Jacob was cooking stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was exhausted. <sup>30</sup>And Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stew, for I am exhausted!" (Therefore his name was called Edom.)

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<sup>31</sup>Jacob said, "Sell me your birthright now." <sup>32</sup>Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?"

<sup>33</sup>Jacob said, "Swear to me now." So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob.

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<sup>34</sup>Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

—Genesis 25:29-34 ESV

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<sup>35</sup>But he said, "Your brother came deceitfully, and he has taken away your blessing." <sup>36</sup>Esau said, "Is he not rightly named Jacob? For he has cheated me these two times. He took away my birthright, and behold, now he has taken away my blessing." Then he said, "Have you not reserved a blessing for me?" —Genesis 27:35-36 ESV

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Jacob: Experiencing God

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<sup>12</sup>And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! <sup>13</sup>And behold, the LORD stood above it and said,

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"I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring.

—Genesis 28:12-13 ESV

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<sup>20</sup>Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, <sup>21</sup>so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God,

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<sup>22</sup>and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that You give me I will give a full tenth to You."

—Genesis 28:20-22 ESV

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... <sup>22</sup>to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, <sup>23</sup>and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, <sup>24</sup>and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness...

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<sup>28</sup>Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

—Ephesians 4:22-24, 28 ESV

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And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, "We came to your brother Esau, and he is coming to meet you, and there are four hundred men with him."

—Genesis 32:6 ESV

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Jacob: Exchanging Strength

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Then He said, "Let Me go,  
for the day has broken."  
But Jacob said, "I will not let  
You go unless You bless me."

—Genesis 32:26 ESV

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For our sake He made Him  
to be sin who knew no sin, so  
that in Him we might become  
the righteousness of God.

—2 Corinthians 5:21 ESV

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<sup>9</sup>But He said to me, "My grace  
is sufficient for you, for My  
power is made perfect in  
weakness." Therefore I will  
boast all the more gladly of my  
weaknesses, so that the power  
of Christ may rest upon me.

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<sup>10</sup>For the sake of Christ, then,  
I am content with weaknesses,  
insults, hardships, persecutions,  
and calamities. For when I am  
weak, then I am strong.

—2 Corinthians 12:9-10 ESV

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