

LET'S
MAKE
A
DEAL



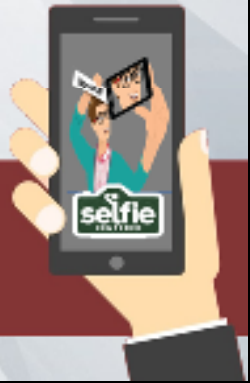


LIVING AN UNFOCUSED LIFE



The Worst Deal Ever!

(Genesis 25:24-34)



Beware of the Bowl!

Esau comes in starving from an unsuccessful hunting trip

He asks Jacob to give him a bowl of beans.

Jacob asks Esau to give him his birthright in exchange.

Shortsighted Esau says that the birthright is no good to him since he's dying of hunger, and agrees.

**The writer of Genesis even said,
"Esau despised his birthright."**



“Despised” his Birthright

Esau’s birthright gave him double the inheritance,
He gave it up in a single moment for a bowl of beans
In what looks like the worst negotiation in human history,
Esau gave up so much for so little.

What good is it for someone to gain the **whole world**,
yet **forfeit their soul**?

Mark 8:36



Beware of Mistaking Growth for Maturity

Genesis states that Esau and Jacob grew up

They were 60 years old when Esau sold his birthright.

Esau grew in his hunting skills, but he did not grow in his relationship with God

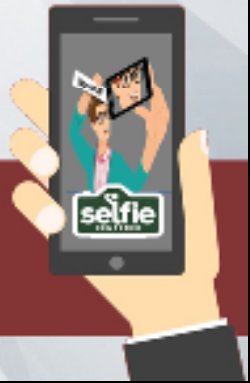
Jacob learned how to make a mean stew but never learned to stop stirring the pot to feed his selfish attitude



Beware of Mistaking Growth for Maturity

**Know we can grow up on the outside
but stay small on the inside**

**We need to ask ourselves if we've
really grown up or if we're still governed by
childish selfishness and impulsiveness.
(Ephesians 4:15)**



Beware of Unsatisfied Appetites that Become Exaggerated Emotions!

Esau got in trouble because he got too hungry.

**He was so hungry that he was willing to
do anything to satisfy his appetite**

He wanted immediate gratification

He became dramatic

Saying he was about to die!



Hungry Lives

**When we get too hungry, everything
gets blown out of proportion**

It's when we're too lonely

Too tired

**In hunger our emotions are exaggerated and
we settle for things we normally wouldn't
think twice about.
(Deuteronomy 8:3)**



Beware the Temptation to Give Up What You want Most for What you want Now

After Esau sold his birthright, he ate the stew.

Scripture doesn't even say that he enjoyed it

**That's because, the bowl always looks better
in the moment than it really is.**

**In the here and now we value what we can
touch, taste, see, and hear**



For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles. Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

Romans 1:21-25



Satan wants to make a deal with us: Bowls for Birthrights.

**As believers in Jesus Christ, we have a birthright,
a spiritual inheritance (Hebrews 9:15)**

**We possess everything that Jesus possessed because
we are co-heirs with him Jesus (Romans 8:17)**

**He sent His down payment to us by the Holy Spirit.
(Romans 5:5)**



**But for every birthright,
there is a bowl.**

**We sell our peace by choosing
to eat worrisome thoughts.**

**We sell our joy by eating from a bowl
of things to grumble about**

**We sell our testimonies by indulging
in our temptations**



Esau chose the bowl and later tried to be restored, but was denied

See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many. See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son. Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. Even though he sought the blessing with tears, he could not change what he had done.

Hebrews 12:15-17





What's Your Deal?

