

A person with a backpack is hiking through a dense forest. The person is seen from behind, wearing a white cap and a dark backpack. The forest is lush with green trees and moss-covered ground. The title 'Origins' is written in a large, white, cursive font, and 'Studies In Genesis' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it.

Origins

Studies In Genesis

Origins: Isaac Carries The Promise

Date: Sunday 10th February 2019

Speakers: Jon Solway and Tony Bunker

Key Verses: Genesis Chapter 24-26

Talk Summary: We see throughout Isaac's life the importance, and power, of prayer. He is an answer to prayer in that he is Abraham's heir. The story of how he finds a wife is full of prayer. And lastly, he prays for Rebekah, so that they can have a son. Prayer was crucial in Isaac's life, and it is just as powerful now.

Isaac inherited a lot from Abraham. Unfortunately, he inherited a number of unhelpful things from his father, including infertility, sibling rivalry, lying, and faithlessness. Just like Isaac, we also inherit unhelpful things from our families and, while they don't have any power of us because of what Jesus has done, we need to prayerfully think about what unhelpful things we've inherited.

Isaac also inherited great things from Abraham. He was given all of Abraham's possessions, but he also inherited the promises that God gave to Abraham. Isaac was the first generation of the people of Israel, and everything God promised to Abraham began to be fulfilled through Isaac. Likewise, we have inherited the same promises, through Jesus Christ.

Group Discussion Questions

-Which of your parents do you most resemble? What features or characteristics have you inherited from them?

-What mistakes do Abraham and Isaac make? How can we learn from their mistakes?

-What does God promise Abraham and Isaac (Gen. chapter 12, 15, 17, 26)? How does that influence our daily lives? You might like to google 'biblical promises of God' – read some of these and take courage!

-As a group, share stories of how God has answered your prayers.

-As a group, share places in your lives where you could follow the example of Abraham's servant: step out for God, take a risk, and pray that God will help you as you do it. Take time to pray for each other.

To ponder or pray about this week...

-As you face tricky situations this week, lean into God in prayer, rather than trying to solve them yourself. Pray about situations that you can see coming up, and ask God to help you rely on Him as you walk through them.

-Spend time in prayer, asking God to highlight the unhelpful patterns or ways of life that we've inherited from our parents.

-Reflect on the inheritance we have through Jesus. Thank Him for making a way to the Father, and ask Him to help you live with assurance of your God-given inheritance.