



**THERE IS A CALL TO
BECOME VULNERABLE IN
THE FAMILY OF GOD SO
THAT WE CAN GROW
TOGETHER IN ABIDING
IN GOD'S WORD. THIS
MESSAGE IS ABOUT THE
POWER OF GOD'S PRESENCE
AND LIVING BY HIS WORD!**

NOTES

1. Genesis 27 - Rebekah comes up with a plan to get Isaac's blessing on Jacob instead of Esau. She did this for the prophecy spoken over her to come forth that her oldest son would serve the youngest. The problem with this, is that there wasn't trust in the Lord seeing to it that His promises would be fulfilled, she and Jacob took matters in to their own hands instead of allowing God to intervene. We must become a people who trust in His word and we carry out that word without any mixture of lying, deceit, or any other thing that is not in the character of God.
2. Rebekah covered up Jacob's tender places with the goat coverings so that he would appear to be hairy like Esau so a blind Isaac would be tricked. We are never to cover up our tender, vulnerable places. God wants us to come to Him as we are and for us to lean in to each other with our weaknesses so we can grow together. We must not serve "blind vision" - meaning we need to surrender to the truth of God's presence as we are, not coming to God or each other in a lie of covering up or weaknesses. He sees us, so let us come to Him vulnerable in a posture of repentance so that we can move forward in His plans and promises.
3. John 21 - Peter came to Jesus in a vulnerable place; Jesus called out to the disciples, asking how their fishing was going and when they realized it was the Lord calling, Peter jumped in the water and swam to Jesus even though he wasn't walking in the assignment God placed over him. But Peter came! After this conversation with Peter, Peter would go on to become an apostle and deliver a message that would save thousands - all because he came to Jesus as he was, vulnerable, and Jesus was allowed to speak to Peter's weaknesses which would ultimately strengthen him!
4. When we read John 21, we tend to think about the fish being caught, but it was more about the word of God being released than the fish! Jesus told them to cast the net on the wrong side of the boat, at the wrong time of the day. Jesus asked "how is the fishing", in other words "how is going back to work treating you?" or "how is your normal going?". The word of the Lord asked them to do something that didn't make sense, but when we abide in the word of God, we see fruit and the fish we seek will come. The key is to not get a better boat, or net, or way, or strategy; the key is to seek the word of the Lord and follow His word no matter the cost!