

# GOD WORKS THROUGH PROBLEMS

## Family Devotion — Lesson 21

### MEMORY VERSE—ROMANS 9:13

***“As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.”***

- The parents of Jacob and Esau were Isaac and Rebekah. Jacob and Esau were twins (born at the same time), but they lived their lives very differently. Jacob had an interest in spiritual things and Esau in carnal things. This is why God loved Jacob and hated Esau. God certainly hated how Esau lived his life.
- Before the two boys were born, they struggled in Rebekah’s belly (Gen. 25:22-26). This made things uncomfortable for Rebekah, but God worked through this problem to accomplish His purpose:
  - Each boy was to represent a nation of people (Esau—Edomites & Jacob—Israel).
  - Jacob was to be stronger and Esau was to be his servant.
- Problems are a part of life (Job 5:7). When you feel a struggle in your stomach (maybe an uneasy feeling), remember to inquire of the Lord like Rebekah did (Gen. 25:22).
- *“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God...”* (James 1:5).
- God may be doing something in your life that feels uncomfortable to accomplish His purpose. It may also be a way for God to get your attention.
- God works through problems to demonstrate His power. It may seem impossible for God to make something good come out of a problem, but nothing is too hard for the Lord (Gen. 18:14).
- *“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose”* (Rom. 8:28).
- Always remember that struggles can make you stronger if you seek God’s will in it. (The Butterfly’s Struggle)

### QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS

- Have you ever let a problem take control and consume you? Explain what you could have done differently.
- How does prayer play a major role in our lives when we face problems?
- How can faith help you in a problem?

### PRAYER TIME

- Ask God to help you remember that a problem can be a good thing.
- Ask God to strengthen your faith when facing a problem.
- Pray for someone who is experiencing a problem.

### CHALLENGE

- Find someone you know who is going through a problem and encourage them by being a blessing.