

September 20/21, 2003

**Study Questions**  
*Fear or Faith (Part 1): A Study in the Life of Isaac & Jacob*  
**When Fear Comes Home**  
**Genesis 26:34-28:9**

**Opening Discussion**

1. What is fear? Why is fear in conflict with faith?
2. Brainstorm what you believe to be the top 10 fears people struggle with.
3. In what ways do our fears manifest themselves in daily life?
4. What would you identify as your number one fear?

**Bible Study**

1. Read Genesis 26:34-28:9
2. As a group write or discuss a profile for each of the four main characters in the story. What did each fear? How did those fears manifest themselves in behavior? How did those fears destroy their relationships? Using those profiles, describe a modern day Esau, Jacob, Rebekah, Isaac.
3. Which of the four characters do you most identify with and why?
4. Discuss how each of the characters might have responded had he/she been controlled by faith rather than by fear?
5. Brainstorm about other biblical characters who were controlled by fear. What did their fear cause them to do or not do? What were the consequences of their behaviors? What would a response of faith have looked like?

**Application**

1. What is your greatest fear? How does this fear manifest itself in life and relationships?
2. How would faith cause you to live differently in this area?
3. What will be necessary for you to go from fear to faith? How can the members of the group help you go from fear to faith?
4. Pray for one another that you might become people of faith not fear.