

Genesis 27:5-17 – Scene 10: Rebekah Schemes to Get Jacob Blessed.		
12	Perhaps my father will feel me, and I will become like a mocker in his eyes and bring on myself <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a curse ▪ and not a blessing.” 	▪ Curse (12:3)
13	His mother said to him, “Your curse [<i>will be</i>] on me, my son ; only obey my voice, and go , bring [<i>them</i>] to me.”	▪
14a	So he went and took them and brought [<i>them</i>] to his mother.	▪
14b	And his mother prepared delicious food, just as his father loved .	▪
15a	Then Rebekah took the best garments of Esau = her older son , which [<i>were</i>] with her in the house,	▪ Older vs. younger son (25:23)
15b	and clothed Jacob = her younger son .	
16	And with the skins of the young goats she clothed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ his hands ▪ and on the smooth part of his neck. 	▪
17	And she gave <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the delicious food ▪ and the bread, which she had prepared, into the hand of her son Jacob .	▪ Bread: (3:19, 25:34)
Literature Type: ➤ Story		▪
Main Character: ➤ Rabekah: She overhears Isaac’s plan, commands Jacob to participate in her plan, and performs most of the speaking and action in the scene.		▪

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<p>Other Characters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Jacob: He questions the viability of Rabekah’s plan, but obeys his mother. 	▪
<p>Story Obstacles (<i>new tensions</i>):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Scene #10, Obstacle #1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Why was Rabekah regularly listening to Isaac’s conversation with Esau (27:5)? (2) Scene #10, Obstacle #2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Why does Rebekah want Isaac to bless Jacob rather than Esau (27:10)? (3) Scene #10, Obstacle #3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Jacob asks a great question. “How will this work? Esau is hairy and I’m smooth. I’ll end up with a curse rather than his blessing (27:11-12).” (4) Scene #10, Obstacle #4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ How can Rebekah take the curse in Jacob’s place? 	▪
<p>Tension Direction:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Scene #10, Obstacle #1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Tension simmers: Has Rebekah been listening because of God’s word to her (25:23), knowing that Isaac would disobey and bless his <u>older</u> son (27:15)? (2) Scene #10, Obstacle #2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Tension simmers: Rebekah schemes to fulfill God’s word (25:23) by securing Isaac’s blessing on the <u>younger</u> son (27:15). (3) Scene #10, Obstacle #3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Tension simmers: Rabekah clothes Jacob in his <u>older</u> brother’s best garments and puts goat skins on his smooth hands and neck (27:15-16). (4) Scene #10, Obstacle #4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Tension simmers: Rabekah will gladly absorb the curse, because her plan is an act of obedience (27:15) to God’s word (25:23). (5) Scene #1, Obstacle #3: <i>How will it play out if the older serves the younger?</i> (See Genesis 25:23.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Tension simmers: Will Rabekah’s obedience thwart Isaac’s intent to disobey? ➤ Tension simmers: Will YHWH use Rabekah to protect his plan? 	▪

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<p>Theme (<i>to original audience</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rabekah works to obey God’s word (25:23), <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ by scheming to gain Isaac’s blessing on her <u>younger</u> son, ▪ knowing of Isaac’s love for his <u>older</u> son’s wild game. 	▪
<p>Theology (<i>for all audiences</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Obedience often carries a great price (27:13). ➤ God’s plan is never thwarted, and he sometimes uses imperfect means to complete his plan. 	▪ <i>This is not a complete list.</i>
<p>Big Idea (<i>for our audience</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Count the cost (compare with Luke 14:27-30) (<i>for various audiences</i>). ➤ Embrace the imperfect (<i>training for short-term missions</i>).¹ 	▪ <i>These are just examples.</i>

¹ My assignment, on several trips to Africa, was to mentor a divorced, female pastor—two disqualifying factors in some circles. Yet, she was the only one willing to serve that village and did so at great sacrifice. Should I refuse?

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Genesis 27:18-29 – Scene 11: Isaac Blesses Jacob.