



Dgroup Discussion Guide for April 16, 2016

## Door 1 or Door 2

### **Scripture: Genesis 36**

Behind door #1 we will find: strangers in the land, poverty, slavery, wanderers, and a generation will die off. On the other hand, door #2 has for us a people with their own land, rich, beautiful, a line of chiefs and kings. Which would you choose?

Genesis 36 tells us the genealogy of Esau, who is the father of the Edomites. He had disobeyed his father Isaac and chose his wives from other races. His wives' name reflected outer beauty and external facets. This grieved his father Isaac and his mother Rebecca. He even married into the family of Ishmael.

Esau did this out of spite of his father. God was not part of his plans as he chose his wives. Furthermore, Esau also chose to leave his father's land as we see in verses 6 – 7. This was a decision based on what he believed was good for both Israel and him economically. But sometimes, decisions even if they seem economically sound may not be a part of God's will for us. The best place where we can be is in the center of God's will. We should blossom where God plants us even though sometimes it may not always be what we think is the greener pasture.

To be outside the will of God is a recipe for disaster.

At the onset, it seemed that Esau was blessed. He had a string of chiefs in his descendants. He even had several kings to boast of. But out of 81 in his genealogy only 2 had a hint of God. But can we truly say that he was a success. . . that he was blessed?

Esau's genealogy is important for us because God wanted us to know who the Edomites are and secondly so that we would know who these people are.

We see what becomes of the Edomites in Numbers 20 when the Israelites encountered them on their way to the Promised Land. The Edomites would not allow the Israelites passage through their land, forcing the Israelites to go around.

Sometimes in life we can encounter situations similar to this when the people we expect to help are the very ones who are the first to go against us. Success and money per se is not evil but it becomes a source of evil when it becomes our god, our idol. What we do with our money and our success; our pursuit of money or success can make it our idol. God wants to bless us and sometimes He even blesses us financially. But when we make these our god, God looks at it as idolatry, as adultery. Remember love for this world is adultery towards God.

In Matthew 2, we meet another Edomite – Herod the Great. After heard that he had been tricked by the magi, he had all the young infant boys killed. Later on, his son Herod Antipas was the one who had ordered the beheading of John the Baptist and to whom Jesus was brought to.

They were both descendants of Esau.

Hebrews 12: 16 – 17 says ***that there be no immoral or godless person like Esau, who sold his own birthright for a single meal. For you know that even afterwards, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought for it with tears.***





Money or success by itself is amoral, which means it is not inherently bad. The problem lay in the fact that Esau chose to be immoral, chose to be godless. Revelation 3:16-17 says ***so because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth. Because you say "I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have in need of nothing." And you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked.*** When we lose sight of what is most important and chose to focus on this world, we will lose.

Let us look to the source of the blessing, rather than focus on the blessings itself. Constantly reminding ourselves that this world and everything in it is temporary. Let us look to our going home to our Father, who is our one source of joy. Mark 8:36 says ***What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul.*** Let us keep our eyes focused on God alone. . . and everything else will fall into place.

Further Romans 12: 2 ***do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.***

**APPLICATION:**

Patently listen as God reveals where you can apply the passage’s lesson in your life. Write down specific action points to what He has revealed to you.

	<p>Personal: Have you thought about what kind of legacy you are making? As of today, what kind of legacy are you building upon?</p>
	<p>Family: Read the parable in Luke 12. What is the lesson we can learn from this parable? How can we apply this in our life?</p>
	<p>Discipleship: Discuss with your discipleship group how you can ensure a godly legacy.</p>
	<p>Church/ Ministry: In the light of all that is happening in the world today, how am I actively and intentionally sharing the gospel to those who are around me?</p>

**PRAYERS:**

Lift all the things that you learned back to God. Share your thoughts to Him. If He is impressing a sin in your life, confess it to Him. He is always ready to forgive.