



SANDIA FELLOWSHIP WEEKLY NEWS

February 12, 2026

The Wise Man Looks Ahead

The story of Jacob and Esau is a fascinating tale of two paths.

It begins with Isaac's wife Rebekah pregnant with twins and given a prophecy that the older will serve the younger (unheard of in antiquity). Now adults, first-born Esau comes in starving from hunting and sees his younger brother cooking stew. He demands a bowl. Jacob replies, "Sure, if you give me your birthright." Esau

exclaims, "What good is a birthright when I'm starving? Give me stew and it's yours!" Now old and nearly blind, Isaac is ready to bestow the birthright blessing upon Esau. Rebekah tells Jacob to deceive Isaac by pretending to be Esau. They successfully pull it off and Jacob receives the blessing. Esau discovers the deception and is outraged and despondent that his younger brother stole what was rightfully his. In fear for his life Jacob flees, never seeing his mother again.

The scriptures describe Esau as "having despised his birthright," which is to say that his need for immediate gratification meant more to him than the promise of the future.



In 2018 I attended my father's class reunion with my family. It was fun to meet his childhood friends Dewey and Joe and look at all the memorabilia, especially my father's senior yearbook. Thumbing through it, I saw my father had been voted "Most Likely to Succeed" and "Most Studious," was Class President, Newspaper Editor, President of the Beta Club, a Furman Scholar, and many other honors. He'd never mentioned any of this, but I also wasn't surprised, as he had attended West Point, MIT, and other schools and had enjoyed an illustrious career as a nuclear physicist and mathematician. Inscribed under my Dad's senior photo was his favorite quote, "The wise man looks ahead." I couldn't help but think back to the many stories my father had told my brother and me as children: how he spent most days studying hard after school rather than playing with friends. He chose a future of promise over immediate gratification.

Having a long-range view is always wisdom, something Esau lacked to his great peril.

But Jacob wasn't blameless either. His name literally means "deceiver." He highly valued the birthright but used deception to obtain it. He later undergoes a transformation at Peniel, exhausted and crying out to God: "I will not let You go until You bless me." The timing is significant, for it is when we come to the end of ourselves is where God meets us. Determined again to obtain a blessing, yet not with trickery this time. Jacob had come to the end of himself.

This is the heart that God blesses. Flawed, yet yearning for God.

The bowl of stew that day seemed trivial. But consequential decisions often feel ordinary at the time.

"Jacob is loved not because he is already just, but because he longs for the things of God. Esau loses what he does not value; Jacob receives what he desires, though his ways are still imperfect," wrote third century church father Origen.

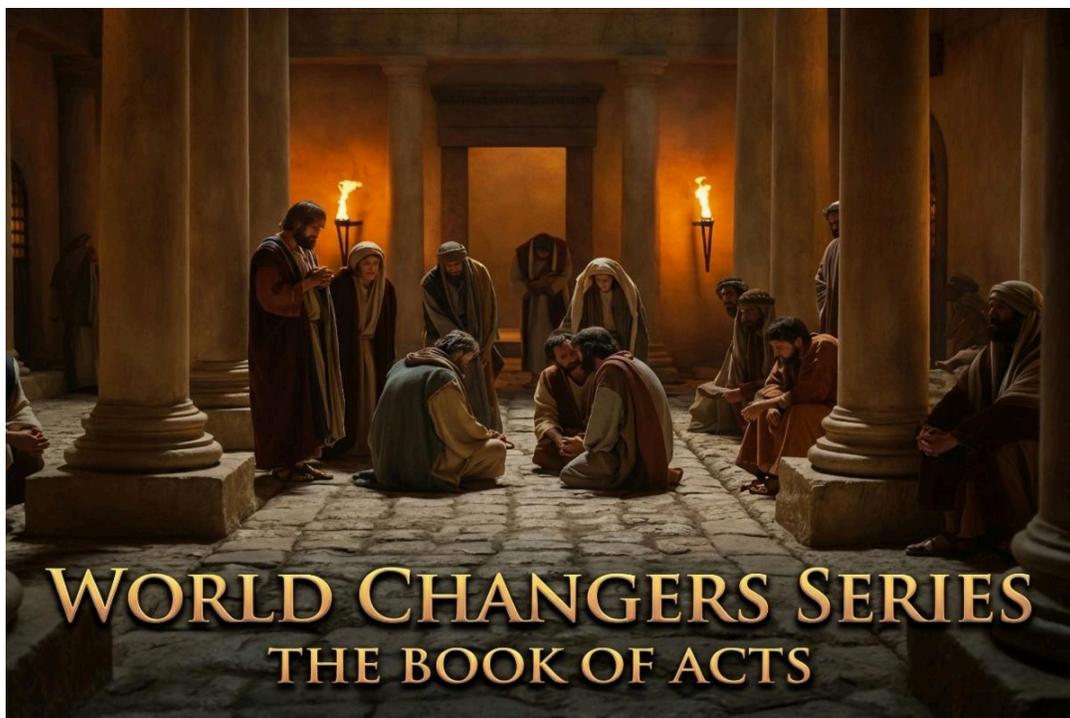
"In the two sons of Isaac we see two loves: one set on the present world, the other on the promise of the future. These loves make two lives," observed St. Augustine.

Perhaps this is why the writer of Hebrews urges,

"Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with perseverance the race set before us, fixing our eyes upon Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. For the joy set before him He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Truly, the wise man looks ahead.

Blessings,
Holly Klein
Director of Communications



MESSAGE FOR THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15
"Taking a Stand: Paul and Barnabas"
Acts 15

During this twelve-week series on the Book of Acts, we are discovering and being challenged by the amazing group of Christian converts who turned the Roman Empire upside down through the power of the Holy Spirit.

This coming Sunday we will be taking a look at another major conflict that arose in the early church. This conflict is about the requirements related to receiving salvation which then leads to the matter of having assurance of salvation. The early Jewish converts to Christianity had one definition and Paul and Barnabas had another -- and they battled it out at a rather intense council meeting in Jerusalem.



**CHILDREN'S CHURCH THIS SUNDAY!
Every 1st and 3rd Sunday**

Children's Church is offered on the **1st and 3rd Sundays** of each month. This program is for children in kindergarten through 6th grade and takes place during the message portion of the morning service. Please inquire at the Welcome Desk on Sunday if you have any questions, or email us at info@sandiagmc.org.



WITH SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS

We express our sympathy to the family of Walter (Wally) Barnes who passed away Wednesday February 4. Please lift up his children Cindy, Karen and Bill in prayer. Services will be planned for a later date.



BUILDING UPDATE

We are continuing to make progress on the build each week. Here are a couple of pictures of what is taking place inside our building. Please keep our workers and the projected timing of our Grand Opening in your prayers.





THERE'S A LIFE GROUP FOR YOU!

Sandia Fellowship has several LIFE Groups regularly meeting in homes throughout Albuquerque, as well as two that meet in local restaurants:

Tramway Group: This LIFE Group meets every first and third Wednesday from 7:00-8:00 PM. Contact: **Ed Boucheron**

Northeast Group: This LIFE Group meets every first and third Wednesday from 7:00-8:00 PM. Contact: **Tim Ownbey**

Women's Group: This LIFE Group meets every second and fourth Saturday at 10:00 AM at the church offices (2609 Texas St NE). Contact: **Lindy Rech**

Foothills Group: This LIFE Group meets every first and third Tuesday from 2:00-3:00 PM. Contact: **Jim Turner**

“The Story” Group: This LIFE Group meets every first and third Monday from 12:00-1:00 PM at the church offices. Contact: **Pastor John**

“The Chosen” Interactive Bible Study Group: This LIFE Group meets seasonally using an interactive guide that follows along with the popular TV series. The group meets on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 PM at the church offices (2609 Texas St NE). Contact: **Gina Rivera**

Men's Breakfast: This group meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 AM at Sunnyside Up (6909 Menaul Blvd). Contact: **Ed Boucheron**

Women's Breakfast: This group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 9:00 AM at Dave's High Desert Grill (5200 Eubank Blvd). Contact: **Linda Hess**

All of these groups welcome new members! If you're interested in information about any of these, please contact the person listed or send an email to the church **here**.

Visit our **LIFE Groups page** on our website to learn more!



VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

Have you visited our website lately? There's always fresh content being added: [announcements](#) and church news, current [sermons](#) as well as [past sermon series](#), weekly [newsletters](#), and more.

You can also [submit a prayer request](#), learn about our various [Life Groups](#), read about the [missionaries and outreaches](#) we support, set

up [online giving](#), learn more about the [mission and vision](#) of Sandia Fellowship as well as the [Global Methodist Church](#), and so much more!

Bookmark our site and check back regularly!

www.sandiagmc.org



SEND US YOUR PRAYER REQUESTS!

Sandia Fellowship has a dedicated Prayer Ministry that intercedes weekly for various needs and requests. The Apostle Paul wrote, "**Do not be anxious about anything**, but in **everything** by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving **let your requests be made known to God**. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)

There is no prayer need "too small" or "too big" for the Lord. If our hearts are burdened by anything, God wants us to bring it to Him in prayer -- and He promises us His peace when we do.

You can submit a prayer request in one of three ways:

- Send a request through our [website](#) or click the red button below.
- Email us at prayer@sandiagmc.org.
- Fill out a **Prayer Request card** available at the Welcome Tables on Sunday mornings.

If you'd like to be a part of this Prayer Ministry, please email Holly at hklein@sandiagmc.org.

[SUBMIT YOUR PRAYER REQUEST HERE](#)



SANDIA FELLOWSHIP

Global Methodist Church

SHERATON ABQ
UPTOWN
2600 Louisiana Blvd NE

VISIT US ONLINE
www.sandiagmc.org



Sundays @ 10 AM

Join us for worship this Sunday!

Childcare is available for ages six months through five years old.



SANDIA FELLOWSHIP YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Did you know you can subscribe to the Sandia Fellowship YouTube channel? All of our weekly sermons are uploaded to our YouTube channel **here** as well as on our **website**.



This exciting venture in faith would not be possible without God moving upon the hearts of people to give towards this work. Your generosity helps create a church where we can bear witness to the transforming power of the Gospel. The mission of Sandia Fellowship is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly. We strive to humbly serve others as ambassadors of Christ.

Click [HERE](#) to give safely and securely online.

NOTE: Donations can be made to either the **General Budget** or the **Building Fund** by choosing from the dropdown menu. You can also make a donation to our monthly **Communion Offerings** via the dropdown.

Checks can also be mailed to:

Sandia Fellowship GMC
P.O. Box 16702
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87191



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