

The Garbage Man – “One Man’s Junk...”

Video – Intro – Prank the garbage man

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Intro:

TALK ABOUT THE GARBAGE MAN IN OUR LIVES

ILL: Have you ever gone around to look for junk in other people’s garbage cans? There was a time through the year when the city would take a lot of junk in the garbage. When I was a kid my dad and I would ride around and take things out of peoples garbage that we thought was valuable to use.

ILL: START TAKING THE JUNK OUT OF CAN AND PIECE IT TOGETHER.
(Coat tree is in garbage can missing the bottom piece to hold legs together.)

**(AFTER YOU’VE BUILT IT PUT COATS ON IT REPRESENTING YOUTH & ADULTS AND MOVE IT - THE LEGS WILL FALL OFF) THAT’S WHY THEY THREW THIS AWAY – ONE PIECE IS MISSING
(PUT LEGS BACK ON COAT TREE AND HANG UP COATS)**

A. IT’S AMAZING WHAT WE THROW AWAY BECAUSE OF ONE PIECE IS MISSING.

1. We do the same things in our lives we devalue things in our lives that should be so important. WE THROW OUR VIRGINITY, MARRIAGE, INTEGRITY, HEALTH, FINANCES, CHRISTIAN WALK, AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER, AWAY.
2. Because a CERTAIN PIECE is missing we devalue precious gifts that God has given us.

B. THERE WAS A MAN (ESAU) WHO HAD SOMETHING EXTREMELY IMPORTANT.

1. He would inherit the wealth, the family business, the responsibilities. But he wasn’t to crazy about running the family business, he wanted to do his thing hunt, go in the wilderness, GET IN HIS NOTHING BOX AND DO HIS THING. But he didn’t realize the great value in what he was getting before God (BIRTHRIGHT).

ILL: ESAU WAS COMING OUT OF THE WILDERNESS STARVING (TELL STORY)

Genesis 25:31-34 (NIV)

Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright." "Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?" But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright.

C. WHAT WAS THE BIRTHRIGHT?

1. When the son received the birthright he became God’s representative for the family. He would be over all the servants (hundreds), leading the family in worship and Spiritual growth for the family.
2. He became responsible for the estate, property, the family business. The son would possibly inherit twice as much money from the rest of the kids. Receiving the BIRTHRIGHT had a lot of perks.
3. It had responsibilities along with blessings.

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D. WHY WOULD ESAU THROW AWAY SOMETHING SO VALUABLE.

1. BECAUSE HE was missing a important piece.

Hebrews 12:16 (NIV)

See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son.

2. He was godless – He was missing the piece called God. That’s why it was easy for him to give up his BIRTHRIGHT and all the blessings. He was more interested in do what he wanted to do instead of the Lord.

ESAU SYNDROME

A. Have you ever got caught up in the ESAU SYNDROME?

1. The Bills are piling up, FINANCES have gotten out of control, your MARRIAGE is on the rocks, your KIDS don’t know who you are anymore, the PRESSURES of life have become overwhelming.
2. And your ready to throw everything in the GARBAGE CAN that you hold valuable.

Hebrews 12:16-17 (MSG)

Watch out for the Esau syndrome: trading away God's lifelong gift in order to satisfy a short-term appetite. You well know how Esau later regretted that impulsive act and wanted God's blessing—but by then it was too late, tears or no tears.

B. ESAU FINALLY CAME TO HIS SENSES AND WANTED HIS BIRTHRIGHT BUT IT WAS TO LATE.

ILL: He went to his father and wanted his birthright and his father told him that he already gave it away.

Genesis 27:34 (KJV)

And when Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry, and said unto his father, Bless me, *even* me also, O my father.

1. We finally wake up and smell the roses and tell ourselves what we have done. Why did I throw away something so valuable.

CONCLUSION:

A. The reason why we throw valuable things away in the garbage because we’re missing the most important piece.

1. THE APOSTLE PAUL PUTS IT JUST RIGHT.

Philippians 3:12 (MSG)

I'm not saying that I have this all together, that I have it made. But I am well on my way, reaching out for Christ, who has so wondrously reached out for me.

(JESUS WALKS DOWN WITH THE MISSING COAT TREE PIECE AND PUTS IT ON)

2. PAUL reached out for Christ because he knew that Jesus is the missing piece in his life. And as he reached out for Christ - JESUS REACHED OUT for Him.