

# Sermon Discussion Questions

**Speaker: Dr. Stephen Burrell    Topic: Genesis 29-30    Scripture: Genesis 29-30:4**

- Briefly summarize the main points of the sermon.
- What questions do you still have from today's sermon?
- Read Genesis 29:1-20
  - What events lead to Jacob meeting Rachel at the well? (v. 1-10)
  - How does Laban respond when he learns Jacob is his relative? (v. 13-14)
  - What agreement do Jacob and Laban make, and what does it reveal about Jacob's feelings for Rachel? (v. 15-20)
  - How does God use ordinary events (like a trip to a well) to guide Jacob toward His greater plan? (See Proverbs 16:9.)
  - What does Jacob's willingness to work seven years for Rachel reveal about love and commitment? (See 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.)
  - How can we pursue our goals with patience and integrity, trusting God's timing in relationships and responsibilities? (See Galatians 6:9.)
- Read Genesis 29:21-35
  - What deception does Laban commit against Jacob, and how does Jacob respond? (v. 21-25)
  - What justification does Laban give for giving Leah instead of Rachel? (v. 26-27)
  - How does the passage describe God's compassion toward Leah in her situation? (v. 31)
  - What are the names and meanings of Leah's first four sons, and what do they reveal about her emotional and spiritual state? (v. 32-35)
  - How do we see the pattern of deception continuing in Jacob's life, and what does this suggest about sowing and reaping? (See Galatians 6:7.)
  - How does God's attention to Leah encourage us about His care for those who feel unloved or overlooked? (See Psalm 34:18.)
  - What can we learn from Leah's shifting focus from winning Jacob's affection to praising God (v. 35)? (See Habakkuk 3:17-18.)
- Read Genesis 30:1-24
  - How does Rachel respond to her inability to have children, and what does this reveal about her heart? (v. 1-2)
  - What role do the maidservants Bilhah and Zilpah play in the conflict between Rachel and Leah? (v. 3-13)
  - What unusual event leads to Leah having more children? (v. 14-17)
  - What are the names and meanings of the sons born in this section, and how do they reflect the ongoing rivalry? (v. 18-24)
  - How does God finally answer Rachel's prayer, and what does she say in response? (v. 22-24)
  - What dangers arise when we compare ourselves to others and compete for affirmation or blessing? (See James 3:14-16.)
  - How does God demonstrate patience and grace even amid human jealousy, brokenness, and manipulation? (See Psalm 103:10.)
  - What can we learn from God's timing in answering Rachel's prayer about perseverance in waiting on Him? (See Romans 12:12.)