

Sermon Discussion Questions

Speaker: Dr. Stephen Burrell Topic: Genesis 30-33 Scripture: Genesis 30:25-33:18

- Briefly summarize the main points of the sermon.
- What questions do you still have from today's sermon?
- Read Genesis 30:25–31:21
 - What prompts Jacob to ask Laban to send him back to his homeland? (30:25–26)
 - What deal do Jacob and Laban make concerning Jacob's wages? (30:31–34)
 - How does God bless Jacob's flocks despite Laban's attempts to control the outcome? (30:37–43)
 - How do Laban's sons and Laban himself react to Jacob's growing wealth? (31:1–2)
 - What does the Lord command Jacob in 31:3, and how do Rachel and Leah respond to Jacob's plan to leave? (31:4–16)
 - What does Rachel secretly take from her father, and how does this set up future conflict? (31:19–21)
 - How does Jacob's story illustrate that God's blessing can continue even in imperfect circumstances and relationships? (See Psalm 1:1–3.)
 - What lessons can we learn from Jacob's work ethic and God's provision in an unfair environment? (See Colossians 3:23–24.)
 - How should we respond when we feel it's time to leave a difficult situation or relationship, and what role does prayer and God's direction play? (See Proverbs 3:5–6.)
- Read Genesis 31:22–55
 - How does Laban respond when he hears that Jacob has fled? (31:22–24)
 - What does God say to Laban in a dream, and how does it influence the confrontation? (v. 24)
 - What accusations does Laban make against Jacob, and how does Jacob defend himself? (31:26–42)
 - What covenant do Laban and Jacob make, and what do the heap of stones and pillar represent? (31:44–54)
 - What does Laban say to his daughters and grandchildren before departing? (31:55)
 - How does God's protection of Jacob encourage us when facing confrontation with those who have mistreated us? (See Isaiah 54:17.)
 - What can we learn from Jacob and Laban's covenant about setting boundaries and seeking peace with others? (See Romans 12:18.)
 - How can believers pursue peace with those they have unresolved conflict with, even when trust is broken? (See Matthew 5:9.)
- Read Genesis 32:1–33:18
 - What causes Jacob to fear his reunion with Esau, and what preparations does he make? (32:3–8)
 - What does Jacob pray in verses 9–12, and how does his prayer reflect his faith and fear?
 - What happens when Jacob is left alone, and how does the wrestling match with the man (God) change him? (32:22–32)
 - How does Esau respond to Jacob's approach, and what surprises Jacob about the reunion? (33:1–11)
 - Where does Jacob settle after parting from Esau, and what does he build there? (33:17–18)
 - How can prayer prepare our hearts before facing fear, conflict, or major life transitions? (See Philippians 4:6–7.)
 - What does Jacob's wrestling with God teach us about persistence, surrender, and transformation? (See Hosea 12:3–5.)
 - How can believers take the first steps toward reconciliation with others, even when past hurt runs deep? (See 2 Corinthians 5:18–19.)