

Life Group / Reflection Questions

This week we read about the story of Jacob's marriage to sisters Leah and Rachel. Jacob's actions mirror many people today who put the weight of their deepest hopes and desires solely on their spouses and ultimately crush their marriages with unreal expectations.

- *How does the world's view of romantic love differ from God's view?*
- *Describe what your picture of an ideal marriage looks like. What do you think it takes to achieve the type of marriage that honors God?*
- *Discuss some of the successful marriages you have seen. How did these couples achieve an ideal marriage?*
- *Why do you think so many people try to find fulfillment through relationships rather than finding it through God?*
- *Describe a time when you tried to find fulfillment and satisfaction through a relationship rather than finding it through God. What did you learn from this experience and how did it ultimately affect your relationship with both God and the other person?*
- *Describe how different your marriage or dating relationship is when you put God first?*
- *How have you seen unmet expectations like Jacob had in Genesis 29 affect your marriage or your relationships with others?*
- *Who or what is your ONE in your life right now? What specific things can you do to ensure that God your ONE?*



January 14th, 2016

“Jacob & Leah (And Rachael)”

Wave Church SD

LIVE FREE...LIVE JESUS...

We exist to set lives free to live fully alive with Jesus!

Once Upon A Marriage
“Jacob & Leah (And Rachael)”
Genesis 29

MARRIAGE MYTH #1:

MARRIAGE IS MEANT TO MAKE ME SATISFIED

Genesis 29:9-12, 16-17

⁹Jacob was still talking with them when Rachel arrived with her father’s flock, for she was a shepherd. ¹⁰And because Rachel was his cousin—the daughter of Laban, his mother’s brother—and because the sheep and goats belonged to his uncle Laban, Jacob went over to the well and moved the stone from its mouth and watered his uncle’s flock. ¹¹Then Jacob kissed Rachel, and he wept aloud. ¹²He explained to Rachel that he was her cousin on her father’s side—the son of her aunt Rebekah. So Rachel quickly ran and told her father, Laban. ... ¹⁶Now Laban had two daughters. The name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷Leah’s eyes were weak, but Rachel was beautiful in form and appearance.

WHEN MARRIAGE IS YOUR ANSWER

1. YOU COMPROMISE MORE THAN YOU SHOULD.

Gen 29:18

18 Jacob was in love with Rachel and said, “I’ll work for you seven years in return for your younger daughter Rachel...”

2. BECOME DEMANDING.

Gen 29:21

21 Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife. My time is completed, and I want to lie with her.”

3. ALWAYS END UP DISSATISFIED.

Gen 29:23, 25

23 But when evening came, (Laban) took his daughter Leah and gave her to Jacob, and Jacob lay with her... 25 When morning came, there was Leah! So Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? I served you for Rachel, didn’t I? Why have you deceived me?”

Gen 29:31-32

31 When the Lord saw that Leah was not loved, he opened her womb, but Rachel was barren. 32 Leah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Reuben, for she said, “It is because the Lord has seen my misery. Surely my husband will love me now.”

WHEN GOD IS THE ANSWER

- **MYTH: TO REALLY BE FULFILLED IN LIFE, YOU HAVE TO FIND THE ONE.**
- **TRUTH: GOD IS YOUR ONE AND YOUR SPOUSE IS YOUR TWO.**

4 FOUNDATIONS OF SATISFACTION WHEN GOD IS THE ONE

1. **Pursuit of God**
2. **Refined Character**
3. **Learn Submission**
4. **Discover our True Worth**

Gen 29:35

35 She conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son she said, “This time I will praise the Lord.” So she named him Judah. Then she stopped having children.

Genesis 49:29-33

²⁹Then he commanded them and said to them, “I am to be gathered to my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite. ³¹There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife. There they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife, and there I buried Leah—