

WRESTLING WITH GOD - STUDY #5

- GENESIS 29

Wrestling with life now in light of God's promises...

Share

1. Can you think of a time in your life when everything seemed to be falling into place – where things just worked out well? What was that like for you?

Observe & Reflect

Read Genesis 29:1–14

1. How does Jacob's arrival at the well (v1–6) show God's ongoing care and provision?
2. What might be the significance of Jacob not being described as thirsty, unlike other travellers who encounter wells in the Bible?
3. What do we learn about Jacob's character in verses 7–11? What might his actions and emotions tell us?
4. How is Rachel's arrival at the well presented in the story? What does this moment reveal about God's timing and Jacob's response?

Read Genesis 29:15–30

5. In verses 15–20, what do we learn about Jacob's feelings toward Rachel? How intense is his desire to marry her?
6. Laban's deception in verses 21–25 echoes Jacob's own earlier deception. How is the theme of "reaping what you sow" present in this story?
7. Why do you think Laban insists on marrying off the older daughter first? How might cultural expectations be at play here?
8. How does Jacob respond to being deceived (v25–30)? What does this show about his character at this point in his journey?

Next Steps...

9. God had promised to be with Jacob and to bless him (Genesis 28:15). How do we see God's presence at work here, even through difficulty and disappointment?
10. What does this passage teach us about the way God works in and through the messiness of human relationships?
11. Have you ever seen God at work through a situation that felt unfair, frustrating, or painful? Share if you feel comfortable.
12. How can remembering God's promises help us when life feels confusing or disappointing?

Extra thinking: *God's promises and life now*

Take some time to read some or all of the following verses, and see what the New Testament teaches about the relationship between life now and God's purposes and promises.

Luke 1:5–25, Luke 2:25–35, Luke 7:18–23, Luke 24:13–35, Acts 9:1–19, Acts 16:6–10, John 11:1–44, Romans 8:18–39, 2 Corinthians 1:8–11, 2 Corinthians 12:7–10, Hebrews 11:32–40, James 4:13–16, 1 Peter 1:3–9, Philippians 1:12–26