

Series: "WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS"
Part 1: "WHEN YOUR FAMILY IS MESSED UP"
Crossroads Community Church
April 16, 2023

³¹ When the Lord saw that Leah was not loved, he enabled her to conceive, but Rachel remained childless. 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."
³³ She conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son she said, "Because the Lord heard that I am not loved, he gave me this one too." So she named him Simeon.
³⁴ Again she conceived, and when she gave birth to a son she said, "Now at last my husband will become attached to me, because I have borne him three sons." So he was named Levi.

Genesis 29:31-34 (NIV)

²² Then God remembered Rachel; he listened to her and enabled her to conceive. ²³ She became pregnant and gave birth to a son and said, "God has taken away my disgrace." ²⁴ She named him Joseph, and said, "May the Lord add to me another son."

Genesis 30:22-24 (NIV)

Now Dinah, the daughter Leah had borne to Jacob, went out to visit the women of the land. ² When Shechem son of Hamor the Hivite, the ruler of that area, saw her, he took her and raped her...

⁵ When Jacob heard that his daughter Dinah had been defiled, his sons were in the fields with his livestock; so he did nothing about it until they came home.

Genesis 34:1-2, 5 (NIV)

Three Dangers in Dysfunctional Families...

1. _____ can ruin our kids

¹³ Because their sister Dinah had been defiled, Jacob's sons replied deceitfully as they spoke to Shechem and his father Hamor. ¹⁴ They said to them, "We can't do such a thing; we can't give our sister to a man who is not circumcised. That would be a disgrace to us. ¹⁵ We will enter into an agreement with you on one condition only: that you become like us by circumcising all your males.

Genesis 34:13-15 (NIV)

²⁵ Three days later, while all of them were still in pain, two of Jacob's sons, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, took their swords and attacked the unsuspecting city, killing every male. ²⁶ They put Hamor and his son Shechem to the sword and took Dinah from Shechem's house and left.

²⁷ The sons of Jacob came upon the dead bodies and looted the city where their sister had been defiled.

Genesis 34:25-27 (NIV)

2. The _____ are often passed down

Jacob lived in the land where his father had stayed, the land of Canaan.

² This is the account of Jacob's family line.

Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them.

³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him. ⁴ When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

Genesis 37:1-4 (NIV)

3. _____ wrecks relationships

How to Overcome a Dysfunctional Family...

1. Believe in _____

⁵ For the Lord is always good. He is always loving and kind, and his faithfulness goes on and on to each succeeding generation.

Psalm 100:5 (TLB)

2. Trust God's _____

² "I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you.

Job 42:2 (NLT)

²⁰ As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good

Genesis 50:20a (ESV)

3. Choose _____