

gods At War
Part 5—gods of Love
Genesis 29:16-35

- To whom do you say, “I love you?”
 - Is it possible that a relationship with a person has _____ your relationship with Jesus?

1. An Uncommon Love Story.

- This story begins when Abraham’s grandson _____ falls in love with a young woman named _____

Genesis 29:16—¹⁶Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷Leah had weak eyes, but Rachel had a lovely figure and was beautiful. ¹⁸Jacob was in love with Rachel and said, “I’ll work for you seven years in return for your younger daughter Rachel.” (NIV)

- Jacob made a deal that he’d work _____ if he could have Rachel as his wife
- Laban had another daughter, an older daughter, named _____
 - She had “_____” while her sister Rachel was lovely in form and beautiful
 - The meaning of the word *rak* is not _____ it is _____
 - Leah had gentle eyes—she was _____

Genesis 29:20—²⁰So Jacob served seven years to get Rachel, but they seemed like only a few days to him because of his love for her. (NIV)

- When our _____ get involved and we don’t see things _____

Genesis 29:21-25—²¹Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife; I’ve completed what we agreed I’d do. I’m ready to consummate my marriage.” ²²Laban invited everyone around

and threw a big feast. ²³At evening, though, he got his daughter Leah and brought her to the marriage bed, and Jacob slept with her. ²⁴(Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah as her maid.) ²⁵Morning came: There was Leah in the marriage bed! Jacob confronted Laban, “What have you done to me? Didn’t I work all this time for the hand of Rachel? Why did you cheat me?” (MSG)

- Jacob woke up expecting _____ and found _____!
- Leah spends her life hoping and dreaming of the day she’ll feel love from _____
- The one thing she has going for her is that she’s able _____

Genesis 29:32-34—³²Leah 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.” ³³She 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. ³⁴Again 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. (NIV)

- What she wanted more than anything else was _____; it had become the god she worshiped

2. How Does Love Become A god in Your Life?

- I think it’s the _____ of love that we worship
 - In our culture _____ is held up as the ultimate human experience
 - The problem comes when those relationships _____
- Ultimately nothing is more _____ to our love life than to put romantic love on the throne instead of God

- It puts incredible _____ on the relationship because we're saying to the person, I want _____ to do for me what _____ alone can do for me
- God has ordered our lives in such a way that He is to be our most _____ relationship
 - If you're experiencing frustration in some of your key relationships then it very well may be because of _____
- Give your attention to making Jesus your _____ and see what happens

Genesis 29:35a—³⁵She conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son, she said, "This time I will praise the Lord." So she named him Judah. (NIV)

- Leah was rejected by her father and by her husband but then she finally stopped expecting them to _____ and she turned to God

Matthew 1:2—²Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah . . . (NIV)

- God had a good plan for this marriage and it came when she turned to God as her source of _____ and put her _____ in Him

Action Steps . . .

- Stop chasing after love
- Run to Jesus!