

# WHY HER?

## WHY HER?, PART 2: MAYBE NOW

No one has a perfect life, no matter how much it looks like from the outside. We must learn to see it like it really is. Because our thoughts and perceptions about our lives are rarely based on reality. We've all got our places of secrets and ugliness, but for some of us, it's just more hidden.

Often what we NEED to see and what we WANT to see are worlds apart. And we end up longing for a life that was NEVER intended for us in the first place. And in the process, we miss out on all of the great things God has planned for us.

**BIG IDEA:** Competition erodes our confidence and keeps us striving to reach unrealistic standards.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*\* Remember the goal is to use the questions to generate discussion, not to complete every one.*

1. What is it that causes us to want our life to seem perfect to others?
2. Has Social Media influenced this behavior in your life?
3. Kim said, "We need to remember, when looking at other people's lives, there's probably a not-so-perfect story. That's never going to be told." What is it in your life that is not so perfect? What is your reaction when you find out about the not-so-perfect part of "Her" life?
4. Kim said, "God give me the eyes what I need to see, not what I want to see." How can praying this simple prayer change our heart and mind about what we see in the lives of those around us?
5. *With your Bible or Bible App, read [Genesis 29:31-35](#).*

*<sup>31</sup> When the LORD saw that Leah was unloved, he enabled her to have children, but Rachel could not conceive. <sup>32</sup> So Leah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Reuben, for she said, "The LORD has noticed my misery, and now my husband will love me." <sup>33</sup> She soon became pregnant again and gave birth to another son. She named him Simeon, for she said, "The LORD heard that I was unloved and has given me another son." <sup>34</sup> Then she became pregnant a third time and gave birth to another son. He was named Levi, for she said, "Surely this time my husband will feel affection for me, since I have given him three sons!" <sup>35</sup> Once again Leah became pregnant and gave birth to another son. She named him Judah, for she said, "Now I will praise the LORD!" And then she stopped having children.*

*[Genesis 29:31-35 \(NLT\)](#)*

6. What insight does Genesis 29:31 give about how God sees us?
7. With the birth of each baby boy, Leah makes a statement about her life. In her view, God seeing her and blessing her with children is helping her "one up" her sister Rachel. Has there ever been a time when God's blessing in your life have caused you to think of yourself as "better" than those around you? How can putting yourself ahead of others hinder what God is doing in your life?
8. *Comparison brings out our competitive side. Competition begins to erode our confidence, and leads us striving to keep up with standards that are unrealistic.* When is the last time comparison left you feeling unsure of yourself? Did you choose to compete? How has competition affected you and your relationships?
9. When was the last time you got something you really wanted and thought, "Maybe now things will be better, or more stable, or like I've always dreamed?" How long did that last?
10. *With your Bible or Bible App, read [Genesis 30:1-8](#).*

<sup>1</sup> When Rachel saw that she wasn't having any children for Jacob, she became jealous of her sister. She pleaded with Jacob, "Give me children, or I'll die!" <sup>2</sup> Then Jacob became furious with Rachel. "Am I God?" he asked. "He's the one who has kept you from having children!" <sup>3</sup> Then Rachel told him, "Take my maid, Bilhah, and sleep with her. She will bear children for me, and through her I can have a family, too." <sup>4</sup> So Rachel gave her servant, Bilhah, to Jacob as a wife, and he slept with her. <sup>5</sup> Bilhah became pregnant and presented him with a son. <sup>6</sup> Rachel named him Dan, for she said, "God has vindicated me! He has heard my request and given me a son." <sup>7</sup> Then Bilhah became pregnant again and gave Jacob a second son. <sup>8</sup> Rachel named him Naphtali, for she said, "I have struggled hard with my sister, and I'm winning!"

[Genesis 30:1-8 \(NLT\)](#)

11. In Genesis 30:1, it says, *When Rachel saw that she wasn't having any children for Jacob, she became jealous of her sister.* How does jealousy change the way we see our situation? Has jealousy ever caused you to do something that you regretted later?
12. How might jealousy have affected Rachel's relationship with Jacob?
13. In verse 8, Rachel said she was winning. How does Rachel's attitude toward the birth of her children show the true condition of her heart? When have you reacted like Rachel when someone else has the thing you most desire?

## MOVING FORWARD

God wants to use us for His purpose not our own. Our position with Him has nothing to do with being in a 'better' position than someone else. How important is it to you to be better than those around you? Does God's purpose for your life give you hope that His way is better than yours?

Is God's attention to who you are more important than you being important to others? How can you break away from comparison and competition in order to find God's best for you?

## CHANGING YOUR MIND

*Rachel named him Naphtali, for she said, "I have struggled hard with my sister, and I'm winning!"*

*Genesis 30:8 (NLT)*