
Seriously, Again?

The Story Genesis 29

Sermon Notes

1. You never know the kind of servant you are until you are treated like one.
2. Disobedience doesn't derail God's plan but does change how we experience it.

My Story

1. Myron did a quick synopsis of what we've learned through Genesis to this point. What stood out to you in that recap? What have you learned as we've traveled through Genesis together?
2. Jacob made a 500-mile walk to Harran to find his wife, which would have taken about 50 days in those days. Have you ever made that long of a journey for something important? Why did you make that journey? Do you see yourself on a journey now?
3. When you think of your walk with Jesus, do you view that as a lifelong journey? Take some time to think through your journey with Jesus over your life. What have been the high points? What have been the valleys? How has Jesus walked beside you throughout the journey? Has He been more likely to keep you from affliction or bad times, or has He been more likely to walk beside you during those tough times? Read Romans 5:1-5. What does the Apostle Paul tell us about trials and suffering? What does he tell us about hope? How does this relate to your life?

In The Beginning

Myron Jellison
November 6, 2022
Sermon #27 | Genesis 29

4. How important do you think first impressions are? Can you think of an experience where you made a bad first impression but were able to later change that impression? Or a situation where you made a bad first impression, but the relationship was never restored? What happened?
5. What does it mean to be a servant? Have you ever been shocked when you were treated like a servant? Have you committed to being a servant for Christ but still struggle with actually living it out?
6. Can you see any part of God's plan for your life? How are you living your life in accordance with His plan for you?
7. Look back at the account of Jacob deceiving Isaac in Genesis 27. List the similarities you see between Gen 27 and what we read today in Genesis 29? Do you think Jacob had a lesson to learn here?

Digging Deeper

Read through these guiding scriptures and answer the corresponding questions.

Read Genesis 29

1. In Genesis 29:9-12, we read an account where Jacob is overcome by emotion. Can you at all relate to Jacob in these verses? When have you been overcome with emotion?
2. What's your impression of Laban in Genesis 29? Do you know of anyone like Laban? How do you approach and interact with them? Read Jesus' words in Matthew 10:16. Does that give you insight into how to interact with shrewd people like Laban?
3. Can you relate to any of the main people in this chapter? Jacob? Rachel, Laban, or Leah? Why? How does your relationship with the Lord speak to you in this? How do you or could you surrender your feelings in this to the Lord?

In The Beginning

Myron Jellison
November 6, 2022
Sermon #27 | Genesis 29

4. Can you imagine what Leah must have been thinking on that wedding night? Or what about Rachel on that same night? Consider the feelings of being trapped or the feelings of betrayal. These life stories were messy. Can you relate?
5. Now go to this page on Bible.org and read the many verses about how God sees you: <https://bible.org/article/who-does-god-say-i-am>.
6. According to these verses, how does God see you? Who does God say you are? Can you accept who God says you are? If you struggle with accepting who you are in Christ, what specifically can you do to learn to accept your identity in Christ?

Read Ephesians 1 Corinthians 13 and John 13:34-35

1. What do these verses say to you about love? How well are you doing with others knowing you belong to Jesus by how you love others? Can you think of examples where you love others well? Can you think of examples where you need to love others better?
2. If you are married and a man, what did you do to win over your wife before you were married? What are you doing to keep winning over your wife now that you're married? Women, what did you do to attract your husband? What are you doing now that you're married to continue attracting your husband?
3. What specifically are you doing in your marriage to live these verses out? What are you doing in your other relationships to live them out?

Bringing It Home

1. How well are you loving others? What specifically can you do to love others well? Think of how God loves you - how can you incorporate the way God loves you into helping you love other people well?

In The Beginning

Myron Jellison
November 6, 2022
Sermon #27 | Genesis 29

2. Myron said that regardless of the situation you may find yourself in, you can always choose to be obedient and do the next right thing. Think of a situation in your life that isn't the way you wished it were (a relationship, a job, a friendship, or something else). What is the next right thing you can do in that situation to be obedient to God? What steps will you commit to taking to do that next right thing?

3. Think of a tough relationship in your life. Do you approach that relationship as a servant? Why is it important that we approach relationships as a servant for Christ? Think of some specific scriptures that speak to this (see Matthew 20: 17-28, Philippians 2:5-10, Ephesians 6:7-8 as examples). What is God saying to you through His word with how you need to approach this tough relationship? What will you do with what God is telling you?

4. Do you think you are obedient or disobedient to God's plan for your life? Can you think of examples of when you have been disobedient? What happened? Examples of when you have been obedient? What happened? If you struggle with staying obedient to God for His plan for your life, what specifically will you do to help you to choose to be obedient?

5. Read Galatians 6:7-10. What do those verses say to you about how you are living your life? When you read those verses and pray over them, do you feel a prompting for changes you need to make in your life and relationships?

6. Do you struggle with seeing yourself as God sees you? If you're unsure how God sees you, check out this resource we included in the Digging Deeper section: <https://bible.org/article/who-does-god-say-i-am>.

7. Part of accepting that you are fully justified and forgiven in Christ is to accept the way God sees you as being true. If you struggle with this, what specifically will you do to renew your mind to enable you to accept your identity in Christ? Will you ask for prayer? Will you talk it over in your life group? Will you talk with someone you know is a follower of Jesus and ask them to help you work this out? Something else?