

THE SAINT PAUL'S BAPTIST CHURCH
GROW | PRAY | SERVE



WWW.MYSPBC.ORG • 804.643.4000

Welcome!

Series: First Comes Love

Today's Message: Put a Ring On It
Dr. Lance D. Watson, Senior Pastor

PRAYER: Almighty God, we give you praise for all of our relationships. Give us the strength to make a commitment to our relationships, so that we might experience the joy, fellowship, and intimacy that each relationship has to offer. In the matchless name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

ICEBREAKER: Can you look back on your life and see times when God was working behind the scenes for your future good, even when you were unaware? Share one of those times.

INTRODUCTION: Jacob had a long history of broken relationships. At Bethel, he encounters God and things change. He then begins the work of building strong, long-term committed relationships. When our vertical relationship is strong, our horizontal relationships will be easier.

BIBLE STUDY: Read Genesis 29:16-21 (Message)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. **What was your biggest takeaway from the message?** What's one thing you learned? What questions came to mind as you listened to the message today? What points did you find most insightful? How did the message challenge you?
2. How do you learn best? From watching others, life experiences, schooling, etc. Jacob seemed to learn best from mistakes. Explain how you learn best?
3. Have you ever been tricked or conned by someone? Have you ever tricked or conned anyone? How do both experiences make you feel?
4. God has taken care of Jacob, Rachel, and Leah even though they went through a lot of trouble. How has God taken care of you through your trials, pains, and successes?
5. Are there times when you are not excited to see distant relatives? Why or why not? Why do our families cause some of the biggest pain we encounter? Share your family stories.
6. In contrast to Abraham's humble and gracious servant, Jacob offered nothing but his own services for the hand of Rachel. How can we become so consumed with what we desire that we will sacrifice anything to get it?

CHALLENGE: Take a moment to reflect on your relationships: are you operating with integrity? Can your words be trusted? Are you reliable? Have you made a commitment to the people in your life? Take time to pray about these things right now.

GPS is a study guide based on the weekend message. The purpose of this guide is to assist small groups in study.
Previous GPS Guides are available online at www.myspbc.org.

THE SAINT PAUL'S BAPTIST CHURCH
GROW | PRAY | SERVE



WWW.MYSPBC.ORG • 804.643.4000

SERVE: Pray over Genesis 29 this week. **Praise** God for loving you and making a commitment to you before you ever made a commitment to God. **Listen:** when you are quiet before God, it is amazing how clear things become. **Respond.** Write it down, live it out, give Him praise!

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Take this time to share group announcements. Church wide and campus specific announcements can be found at www.myspbc.org. You can also “find, follow and like” our Facebook page at facebook.com/myspbc. Turn on your notifications.

CELEBRATIONS: Take this time to share praise reports (e.g. answered prayers, birthdays, anniversaries, promotions).

PRAYER REQUESTS & PRAYER: Take this time to share prayer requests. Close with prayer.

THE SAINT PAUL'S BAPTIST CHURCH
GROW | PRAY | SERVE



WWW.MYSPBC.ORG • 804.643.4000



NOTICE: PLEASE BE PATIENT AS WE REOPEN OUR CAMPUSES IN THE SAFEST MANNER POSSIBLE. As a small group leader, we depend on you to show members that we care. Here's a list of resources to help you.

FOR PRAYER:

CALL: 804.463.2472
EMAIL: prayer@myspbc.org.

TO REQUEST A HOSPITAL VISIT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (For Emergencies)
EMAIL: ecare@myspbc.org.

TO FIND A SUPPORT GROUP:

CALL: 804.643.6177
EMAIL: Barnabas@myspbc.org.

TO CONTACT MY LIFE STAGE PASTOR:

CALL: 804.643.4000 and Press 1 for the Dial By Name Directory

EMAIL:

- Imagination (0-10): Vernita Williams: Vernita.Williams@myspbc.org
- SMB (11-19): Martina Jones-Smith: Martina.Jones-Smith@myspbc.org
- Dreamchasers (20-29): Juan Shackelford: juan.shackelford@myspbc.org
- Aspire (30-39): Lance Watson, Jr.: lance.watsonjr@myspbc.org
- Fusion (40-49): Michelle Townsend: michelle.townsend@myspbc.org
- Encore (50-59): Jamie Duncan: Jamie.Duncan@myspbc.org
- Prime Time (60-69): Maceo Freeman: maceo.freeman@myspbc.org
- Refiners (70+): Roscoe Jones: roscoe.jones@myspbc.org

FOR COUNSELING:

CALL: 804.643.6177
EMAIL: Barnabas@myspbc.org

TO REQUEST FUNERAL SUPPORT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (Pastor On Call)
EMAIL: ecare@myspbc.org.

TO REQUEST EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:

CALL: 804.643.4000
EMAIL: emergencyassistance@myspbc.org.



Small Group Leader Guide

Would you like to START or JOIN a Small Group at Saint Paul's?

Most existing groups are open to new group members, and new groups begin on a regular basis. If you have friends in a small group, ask about joining their group. If you are new to Saint Paul's and are looking for a place to connect, please feel free to contact us and we will do our best to help you find the right group.

Leader Tips:

The GPS document is a guide for discussion. Don't feel like you must use every question. Some questions will take a while to work through while others will be over in a few seconds!

1. Don't teach the lesson. The sermon was taught on the weekend. Just ask questions and let everyone else talk.
2. Let other people ask questions. It's OK to go "off topic" for a while. Sometimes those conversations are more interesting anyway!
3. Have fun. Relationships, not curriculum, are the heartbeat of our small groups. So, have fun with the people in your group.

Agenda for a Small Group Gathering

Gathering Time

Take 5-10 minutes to welcome everyone, catch up and if planned, share some food!

Discussion Time

Here's a suggested format:

1. **Ice Breaker** – Lighthearted icebreaker question (5-10 min.)
2. **Discussion** - Discussion time, Bible study, application challenge (30-40 min.)
3. **Prayer** – Prayer requests and praying for one another (10-20 min.)
4. **Planning** – Remind the group of how we serve together (e.g. usher, sing, greet, pray, etc.)