



---

**God and the Ancients: Leah**  
Scott Merriner, July 18, 2021  
*Small Group Discussion Questions*

**Getting Started**

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion. Expect God to move through your time together!

**Pacing Your Group**

Move quickly through “observation” leaving enough time for “reflection”, “discussion”, and “surrender.”

**Scripture Reading**

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

---

**Observation: *What does this scripture passage say?***

***Take some time to look up and read: Genesis 29:16-35***

1. How was Jacob deceived by Laban?
2. How does Jacob respond?

**Reflection and Discussion: *What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures?***

***Talk together about how the scriptures connect to everyday life.***

3. It is easy for us to become upset at an injustice done to us while closing our eyes to the injustices we do to others.
  - Share about forgiving others who have failed you.
  - Share about realizing how you have failed people in your life.
4. Although Jacob was tricked by Laban, he kept his part of the bargain. There was more at stake than just Jacob’s hurt. There was Rachel to think about, as well as God’s plan for his life. When we are tricked by others, keeping our part of the bargain may still be wise. Nursing our wounds or plotting revenge makes us unable to see from God’s perspective.
  - When we are tricked or deceived, what temptations may threaten to derail us?
  - How can we get “God’s perspective” when we are wronged?
5. Jacob’s name means “deceiver,” and his name is changed to Israel, meaning “struggles/wrestles with God”. Jacob’s character had changed to the point that he was no longer seen as a deceiver, but as a God-honoring man.
  - What makes our Christian character grow?
  - What character qualities has God undeniably grown in you recently? Where do believe God is calling you to grow/change?

**Surrender: Responding to God’s voice.**

6. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?

**\*\* Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today \*\***

---

**We’re here!**

We would love to hear about how things are going in your small group!

Reach out any time with questions, ideas, thoughts, or concerns.

Contact Care & Community Pastor, Michael Warren, (907) 646-4830, [communitylife@changeportalaska.com](mailto:communitylife@changeportalaska.com)