

Focus Verse

"I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed a pillar and where you made a vow to me. Now leave this land at once and go back to your native land." – Genesis 31:13

FIRST DAY: Read the notes and the references.

1. Use this space to record how you have seen God's activity during the week. (How has He provided, answered, comforted, reconciled, guided, etc.?)

2. What truths from the week's verses, lecture, notes or discussion were new or helpful?

SECOND DAY: Read Genesis 30:1-13.

Rachel's inability to bear children caused tension within Jacob's family.

3.
 - a. Based on this passage and the names of the sons, describe the feelings and relationship of Rachel and Leah.

 - b. How can you relate to the feelings or situation of Rachel and/or Leah?

4.
 - a. How did Jacob respond to Rachel's plea?

 - b. Based on his family history, what could Jacob have remembered or done differently to reduce the tension and conflict in his household? (See Genesis 16:1-6; 25:21-22.)

5.
 - a. What lessons can you learn from this passage about painful family or life situations you face?

 - b. What truth about God speaks into your situation?

THIRD DAY: Read Genesis 30:14-24.

The rivalry between Rachel and Leah continued, and Rachel eventually gave birth to Joseph.

6. How did the sisters' rivalry impact Jacob and the children?

7. a. How was Rachel ultimately enabled to give birth?

b. What does this reveal about God?
8. What challenging situation in your life has led you to depend on God rather than a human solution?

FOURTH DAY: Read Genesis 30:25-43.

Jacob asked Laban for permission to go home, but Laban bargained for him to stay.

9. a. How did both Laban and Jacob attempt to manipulate the outcome of their bargain?

b. How do you explain the results for both Laban and Jacob?
10. a. Why did God bless Jacob despite his many flaws and failures? (See Genesis 12:1-3; Colossians 3:22-25; 1 Peter 2:18-20; 3:9; 5:6-7.)

b. How does this give you hope?

FIFTH DAY: Read Genesis 31 and Hebrews 12:3-15.

God intervenes as Jacob and Laban confirm a treaty, and Laban allows Jacob and his family to return to Canaan.

11. Why did Jacob decide to leave Haran for Canaan?
12. a. Give verses in which Jacob praised God and resolved his bitterness over unjust treatment.

b. How can you give credit where credit is due for the good things that happen to you?
13. Which of today's verses help or encourage you?

SIXTH DAY: Review Genesis 30-31.

14. What have you learned from Jacob's life about how God disciplines you and controls your circumstances?
15. Homiletics for group and administrative leaders: Genesis 30-31

© BSF 1960-2020 (This material may be downloaded from mybsf.org and used by BSF class members in connection with their personal BSF class studies. It may not be otherwise reproduced without BSF's written permission.)