

Restoring the Portion *Broken Families, Faithful God*

Sunday, February 22, 2026

Genesis 29:15-27 NIV

¹⁵ Laban said to him, “Just because you are a relative of mine, should you work for me for nothing? Tell me what your wages should be.” ¹⁶ Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷ Leah had weak eyes, but Rachel had a lovely figure and was beautiful. ¹⁸ Jacob was in love with Rachel and said, “I’ll work for you seven years in return for your younger daughter Rachel.” ¹⁹ Laban said, “It’s better that I give her to you than to some other man. Stay here with me.” ²⁰ So Jacob served seven years to get Rachel, but they seemed like only a few days to him because of his love for her. ²¹ Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife. My time is completed, and I want to make love to her.”

²² So Laban brought together all the people of the place and gave a feast. ²³ But when evening came, he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and Jacob made love to her. ²⁴ And Laban gave his servant Zilpah to his daughter as her attendant. ²⁵ When morning came, there was Leah! So Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? I served you for Rachel, didn’t I? Why have you deceived me?” ²⁶ Laban replied, “It is not our custom here to give the younger daughter in marriage before the older one. ²⁷ Finish this daughter’s bridal week; then we will give you the younger one also, in return for another seven years of work.”

1. **God Works Through Imperfect Families.**

2. **God’s Strength Shines Through Human Weakness.**

3. **God’s Covenant Cannot Fail.**

Conclusion: The same God who worked through the dysfunction of Jacob’s family to preserve His covenant has worked through the cross of Christ to save the world. Brokenness is not the end of the story — **redemption is.**

LIFE GROUP LESSON

Broken Families, Faithful God

Week of February 22nd, 2026- February 28th, 2026

Ice Breaker: Have you ever felt unqualified to be used by God?

Read Genesis 29:15-27.

1. What is being negotiated between Laban and Jacob? (v.15)
2. What did Jacob want? (v.18)
3. How was each daughter described? (vs. 16-17) Why include this?
4. Did Laban agree to Jacob’s terms to marry Rachel? (v.19)
5. Was Jacob faithful in his part of the agreement? (v.20)
6. When the seven years were fulfilled, what did Laban do? (vs.22-23)
7. What was Jacob’s response? (v.25)
8. What was Laban’s motivation for his deceit? (v.26)
9. What did this mean for Jacob and his plans?
10. What did Laban offer for Jacob to have Rachel as his wife? (v.27)
11. What problems can you foresee with the way this family began?
12. How does Jacob view each wife? (v.30)
13. How was God moving in this mess? (v.31)
14. What do we see in Leah’s response as she has sons? (vs.32-34)
15. What does her heart long for?
16. Where is her focus with the arrival of her fourth son? (v.35)
17. What do you notice about the names of her third and fourth sons? Who are they in the forming of Israel as a nation? Read Genesis 49:10 and Revelation 5:5.
18. What does this show you about God’s heart and how He builds His kingdom?
19. Meanwhile, what is Rachel’s response to her sister’s many sons? Genesis 30:1 What is her solution? vs. 3-6. Sound familiar?
20. Jealousy fuels rash actions. Read Gen 30:9-16. What is unfolding?
21. Why would God use this dysfunctional family to preserve His covenant? Read 1 Corinthians 1:27-29.
22. Read Genesis 30:22-24. What do we see about God’s heart? Why might He have allowed a delay?
23. Where else did God shine His strength through human weakness? How was He the ultimate fulfillment of this truth? Philippians 2:8-9.
24. What encouragement is this to you and how you fit into the making of God’s Kingdom? What does God want you to know about His love, His faithfulness and His covenant with you?

Point to ponder: No matter our beginning or middle, our ending is redemption. Our weaknesses only give cause for God’s glory to shine.