



# SERMON NOTES

Sunday, September 22, 2024 | Pastor Scott Boerckel

## **The Deceit that Takes Advantage**

Genesis 29:1-35

1. The Joy of Connection (Genesis 29:1-14)

2. The deceiver gets deceived (Genesis 29:15-30)



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Sermon Notes

### 3. The grace of God to the unloved (Genesis 29:31-35)

## Table Talk

- 1) What is Jacob's goal as he arrives near Haran? How might he be feeling at this point? What is his level of excitement upon learning that the shepherds know Laban and that Rachel is approaching? Why might he be interested in shooing these shepherds away? (vv. 7-8) What impressive feat did Jacob perform in his excitement at seeing Rachel? (v. 10) Why did Laban adopt or at least use the language of adoption in reference to Jacob? (v. 14) Can you relate to Jacob's joy of connection in verses 1-14? If so, how?
- 2) How does Laban appear to express concern for Jacob? (v. 15) Describe Leah and Rachel. (v. 16-18a) What was the deal between Laban and Jacob for Rachel? (vv. 18-20)
- 3) What shocking deception occurs at the wedding? (vv. 21-25) Have you ever been shockingly deceived? Describe the emotions and how those emotions impact relationships and relationship with God. Why was it easy for Jacob, the deceiver, to be deceived? Jacob appears indignant that he was deceived (v. 25); is he right to be indignant? Why are people who have sinned against others outraged at the injustice when they are sinned against? Has that happened to you?
- 4) How does Laban justify his actions? Is Laban right to withhold information from Jacob that would alter Jacob's decision? (vv. 26-27) How does this new deal with Laban make Jacob feel toward Laban? Toward each of his wives?
- 5) What does God do in response to Jacob's attitude toward his wives? (vv. 31-35) What does Leah think will make her husband love her? Can we make someone love us? Why or why not?
- 6) How is the promise of God under threat, from a human perspective? Where do we find the Gospel in this chapter?