

the MESSY LIFE of JACOB

from GRASPING to LEANING

The Collisions
of Life | OCT 1



GENESIS 29

¹⁰When Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, Jacob went up and rolled the stone from the mouth of the well and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother.

¹¹Then Jacob kissed Rachel, and lifted his voice and wept.

¹²Jacob told Rachel that he was a relative of her father and that he was Rebekah's son, and she ran and told her father.

¹³So when Laban heard the news of Jacob his sister's son, he ran to meet him, and embraced him and kissed him and brought him to his house. Then he related to Laban all these things. ¹⁴Laban said to him, "Surely you are my bone and my flesh." And he stayed with him a month.

¹⁵Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my relative, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" ¹⁶Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷And Leah's eyes were weak, but Rachel was beautiful of form and face.

¹⁸Now Jacob loved Rachel, so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." ¹⁹Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than to give her to another man; stay with me." ²⁰So Jacob served seven years for Rachel and they seemed to him but a few days because of his love for her.

²¹Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife, for my time is completed, that I may go in to her." ²²Laban gathered all the men of the place and made a feast. ²³Now in the evening he took his daughter Leah, and brought her to him; and Jacob went in to her. ²⁴Laban also gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah as a maid. ²⁵So it came about in the morning that, behold, it was Leah! And he said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Was it not for Rachel that I served with you? Why then have you deceived me?" ²⁶But Laban said, "It is not the practice in our place to marry off the younger before the firstborn."

mean all is well.

- **God's correction sometimes comes in the collisions of life.**

- **Consider God
in the collisions of life.**

RENEWAL: Where has your life collided with someone else's messy life? What thoughts and feelings does the phrase "God's blessings do not mean all is well" create in you? Can you see how God might be using your current life circumstances to either call you to repentance or refine your character? Discuss where you see God's handiwork. "What we sow we reap." Does this bring comfort or fear? Christ provides us with discipline and transformation. How have you seen God transform you through difficult circumstances in your past?



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Neil Tomba

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