

Chapter 28:

List the differences/similarities in how Jacob is instructed to obtain a wife with Abraham's instructions about Isaac getting a wife (Gen 24):

How does Esau respond when he understands where Jacob has gone and why? Who is he aiming to please?

Describe Jacob's dream and what does God promise him? Why are these promises familiar?

Jacob makes a vow to the Lord in verses 20-22, what insight does this vow give us into Jacob's faith at this point?

Chapter 29:

How does Laban greet Jacob? How does his attitude shift in verse 15 and beyond? What type of man is Laban?

The deceiver is deceived, Jacob is reaping what he's sown. Compare and contrast Jacob's deception of Isaac with Laban's deception of Jacob.

How could Jacob have been tricked in this way? What should/could he have done, if anything? (Where do you think Rachel was??)

Chapter 30:

The battle of the babies begins at the end of chapter 29 into 30. These baby names give us a glimpse into the family, describe the environment and dysfunction of this family. List the names w/meanings of each child, extra credit for adding in their order of birth: 😊

Leah

Rachel

Bilbah

Zilpah

|

|

|

What are mandrakes and what are they used for? Rachel is clearly calling all the shots in the family, but how did her plan backfire?

Discuss the people covered in these chapters and their strengths and weaknesses: Jacob, Laban, Rachel and Leah.

Reflection:

Jacob took matters into his own hands and the consequences of his actions were 14+ years of exile and hard labor. Have you ever taken control instead of waiting on God? What were the consequences and how were you refined and spiritually matured by the experience?

Leah struggles with being unloved. Rachel struggles with being unfulfilled. They both look to their husband to fill the void in their hearts but he doesn't have the ability (or desire). Can you identify with either Leah or Rachel? Where do you go to have your needs met? What are some strategies you can implement?