

Now He Will Love Me?

June 5, 2011

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Genesis 29:31–30:24

Pastor Mark Turner

Why Such A Messed Up Family in Chosen Line?

Moses includes this story to humble the nation and remind them that God's blessing is

totally due to His grace and not to anything in them or their forefathers! Jms 4:1-8

Today's Narrative Checkup:

Are you living for God or for self?

Jacob

- Husband has responsibility to lead his family under God Eph 5:22-28
 - Jacob is passive not Phil 2:5ff
 - Jacob blames others Gen 30:2 vs. Gen 25:21
 - Jacob doesn't confront Gen 30:3-4,9-10
- A Husband's passivity buys instantaneous peace at the price of long-range problems
 - Often men avoid issues by hiding at work, play never seek Word
 - Husbands are to lead (1 Tim 3:4,12) like Christ
 - Jacob got angry Gen 30:1-2 instead of leading like Christ
- A Husband is to love his wife as Christ loves the church Eph 5:25
 - A wife shouldn't have to 'earn' or 'seek' a husband's love Gen 29:31,30:32-35
 - A godly husband leads by prayer & instructing in Word (Eph 5:26)

Wives: Rachel & Leah

- A Godly Wife should submit to her husband as unto the Lord and win him over (if needed) by her behavior. 1 Pet 3:1-2
 - "as long as you are manipulating someone you are not submitting to them"
 - a wife's manipulation brings short-term results & long-term frustration
 - you must focus on pleasing God not having needs met thru children, husband, etc. Lk 9:24; 1 Pt 3:1-2
 - Watch out for jealousy! Mt 6:33; Jms 3:14-18

All Together Now

- Seek God in ALL things, don't be satisfied with limited spirituality
 - Leah: naming of sons (from focus on God to ?: Judah=praise; Gad=lucky)
 - Rachel: God doesn't take side in petty rivalries (Jsh 5:13) Get on God's side!
 - Jacob: an experience w/ God w/o a walk with God is not much good!

Thought & Discussion Questions:

Psalm 139:23–24 (ESV) — 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! 24 And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

Men:

1. Prayerfully examine how you are sinfully like Jacob. Identify the areas that the Spirit convicts you and develop a biblical plan to seek God.

2. Is it possible for a passive, sinful man change? (1 Jn 1:9) Where would you counsel him to start?

3. In Scripture a husband is commanded to love his wife (Eph 5:25, 28; Col 3:19) but never to 'rule over' or be her head, what is the significance?

Women:

1. How can a wife honor God when her husband abuses his authority by mistreating her and the children?

2. What is the difference between a wife influencing her husband and manipulation – when is the line crossed?

3. Can a wife submit to her husband (Eph 5:22) as to the Lord and confront her husband when he is wrong? How?

All:

1. Examining these characters, how have you settled for 'limited spirituality' like them? Specifically identify your struggle areas; establish a plan to 'know God'.

2. How are you like Rachel in believing that God is 'on your side' when the reality is that He is only about His glory (Jsh 5:13; 1 Cor 10:31)?

3. Read 1 Cor 6:19-20. Who bought you? Who owns you? With what were you bought? Does that include right to be respected, honored, recognized, etc. Can you trust Christ to worry about your rights since he now owns you?

4. Are you living your Christian life based upon a single experience or are you seeking a daily walk with God (Jms 2:23, 4:4, Gen 5:22-24, Heb 11:5)? Establish a commitment for a walk with God, ask the Spirit to equip you: