



Wandering Toward Promise - Wk 8

Grace in Complicated Relationships

Genesis 29:15-28

**GOD'S GRACE SHOWS UP IN THE MIDDLE OF OUR
BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS**

The Season of Pentecost & Summer Sermon Series

These stories aren't about perfect people. They teach us to trust God even when we cannot see the path ahead.

Today, we're going to study a story about plural marriage, wedding night switcheroos, and a family divided by deceit, favoritism, and jealousy.

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Genesis 29:15-28

- *A bit of background on where this story picks up.*
- *Jacob falls in love with Rachel, and commits to working for Laban for 7 years*
- *The differences between the sisters—Leah is often misunderstood.*
- *On the wedding night, Laban pulls a switch to marry off both his daughters.*
- *The tables are turned on Jacob, but he's determined to marry Rachel.*
- *There are some serious issues here with the women in the story.*
- *Leah goes on to have many children, while Rachel cannot.*
- *The story is full of brokenness, jealousies, rivalries, abuse and more.*

God does not wait for perfect families to do holy work.

Some Questions

1. *What holy work came out of this family dysfunction?*
2. *Where in our own families do we find divisions and dysfunction?*
3. *How can we reframe our family dynamics with an eye toward grace?*

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SERMON EXTRAS & FURTHER READING

FOR FURTHER READING:

Reading Genesis

Marilyn Robinson

Abraham: A Journey To The Heart of Three Faiths

Bruce Feiler

Walking The Bible

Bruce Feiler

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