

blessing of breaking

Small Group Discussion

Daughters, Drama, & Deceit

Story of Jacob Week 4: Genesis 29.1-30

Getting Started

- Share the story of an experience when either all the pieces seemed to come together perfectly, or everything seemed to fall apart.

Static Questions

- **What was the passage about?**
 - Note the key details (Who, What, When, Where, Why, etc.)
 - Pay attention to the main *points* of the passage.
- **What did you learn?**
 - What did the passage reveal about God? About people?
 - Was there a promise or command or a warning?
 - What is the big idea of the passage?
 - What lessons do you see?
- **How will you apply it?**
 - How does this passage relate to your life right now?
 - What change in your thinking or behavior is needed to align with the truths in this message?
 - How should you respond based on what you learned?

From the Teaching this Morning

- On the heels of Jacob's amazing dream and the blessing of God in Genesis 28, Jacob had unbridled confidence as he entered Haran. What is significant about Jacob's behavior at the well and the way he greeted Rachel?
- Although everything was going Jacob's way at the beginning of the chapter, God's discipline through Laban casts a shadow over the second half of the text. What similarities/ironies do you notice connecting Laban's deceit of Jacob and Jacob's deceit of Isaac?

Application Questions

- Reflecting on the "Getting Started" question, if you thought of a positive example, did you attribute that to God's miraculous provision and guidance? Why or why not?
- If you shared a negative example, can you think of anything that God may have been doing either to shape you or expose a blind spot in your life through that experience?
- God used Laban to both reveal Jacob's sinful character and to discipline him even amid the fulfillment of blessing. Maybe there is presently a Laban-like character in your life. Someone who is difficult, harsh, judgmental, prideful, or even deceitful. Even as you pray for relief, pray that God would use this difficult person to help you take a long look at yourself. How *might* God be revealing our sin through that person?

