

**Food for thought**

**5/15/22**

**The Gospel for Scoundrels**

**The girls nobody loved.**

**Genesis 29:15-35**

### **Day 1 – Understanding the passage**

Read Genesis 29:15-35

- What stands out to you in this passage or from the message?
- Note the conversations that happen in each of the three sections: 15-20, 21-30, 31-35.
  - Who is talking to whom?
  - What is the tension point?
  - What is the conclusion of the conversation?
  - In 21-30, was Laban just mean and tricky or did Jacob fail to understand the cultural importance of the firstborn's marriage significance? Why?
- How does the previous section, the dream of Jacob, help us understand this chapter?
- How does the overall theme of Genesis, help us understand this chapter?
- State the main point of the entire passage in one sentence.

### **Day 2 – Taking stock of our lives**

- What is love?
- What do you love? Describe.
- How important is it to be loved by someone? How far is too far to get someone to love you?
- Jacob's 7-year service to Laban seemed like a few days because of his love for Rachel. How does your love of something (family, money, security, pleasure) affect other things in your life?
- Sometimes when you love something, you are willing to sacrifice something else. Laban seems to do this with Leah in order to get Jacob to serve another 7 years. Share a time where your love of one thing cost you something else important in your life.
- Jacob feels pain of deception by Laban, even though he has been deceitful to others.
  - Have you ever had a moment where you saw your bad behavior in someone else?
  - Have you ever had a time where you were hurt in the same way you have hurt someone else?

### **Day 3 – Applying the Bible to our lives**

- How does human love fail us where God's love doesn't?
- How can we trust God when we really want something in life?
- What does this passage say about the plan of God?
- How does this passage emphasize what is important in our life?

Note: Community Groups are a great way to go deeper in the message with other believers. For more information on Community Groups, contact [todd@ankenyfree.church](mailto:todd@ankenyfree.church)