

## Genesis 29:15-30 (ESV)

<sup>15</sup> Then Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?”<sup>16</sup> Now Laban had two daughters. The name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. <sup>17</sup> Leah's eyes were weak, but Rachel was beautiful in form and appearance. <sup>18</sup> Jacob loved Rachel. And he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.”<sup>19</sup> Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” <sup>20</sup> So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

<sup>21</sup> Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” <sup>22</sup> So Laban gathered together all the people of the place and made a feast. <sup>23</sup> But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and he went in to her. <sup>24</sup> (Laban gave his female servant Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her servant.) <sup>25</sup> And in the morning, behold, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?” <sup>26</sup> Laban said, “It is not so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn. <sup>27</sup> Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.” <sup>28</sup> Jacob did so, and completed her week. Then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to be his wife. <sup>29</sup> (Laban gave his female servant Bilhah to his daughter Rachel to be her servant.) <sup>30</sup> So Jacob went in to Rachel also, and he loved Rachel more than Leah, and served Laban for another seven years.

1. What things in this story seem to be ancient? What are some things that seem more timeless?
2. Read 24:12-27. How does Jacob's experience at the well compare to the experience of his grandfather's servant?
3. Everyone had motivations here. What did Jacob want? What did Laban want? What did Rachel and Leah want?
4. When you think of people you know, what motivates them? Is it similar or different from the family in this passage?
5. Is there anyone here you should emulate? Should you follow Jacob's example? Why or why not?
6. What counsel would you give Leah and Rachel in order to bring peace in this family?
7. How might you apply the gospel to Jacob? To Leah? To Rachel?