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Home:

A place of peace or a cause of chaos?

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Genesis 30:1-3, 9

When Rachel saw that she wasn't having any children for Jacob, she became jealous of her sister. She pleaded with Jacob, "Give me children, or I'll die!" Then Jacob became furious with Rachel. "Am I God?" he asked. "He's the one who has kept you from having children!" Then Rachel told him, "Take my maid, Bilhah, and sleep with her. She will bear children for me, and through her I can have a family, too." Meanwhile, Leah realized that she wasn't getting pregnant anymore, so she took her servant, Zilpah, and gave her to Jacob as a wife.

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Desperation breeds disaster, but brokenness is the doorway for God's grace

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Genesis 30: 25-26

Soon after Rachel had given birth to Joseph, Jacob said to Laban, "Please release me so I can go home to my own country. Let me take my wives and children, for I have earned them by serving you, and let me be on my way. You certainly know how hard I have worked for you."

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When life gives you Labans, lean into God's lessons

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Genesis 31:1-2

But Jacob soon learned that Laban's sons were grumbling about him. "Jacob has robbed our father of everything!" they said. "He has gained all his wealth at our father's expense." And Jacob began to notice a change in Laban's attitude toward him.

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When we face seasons of chaos, we can choose to trust God or grow anxious

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Genesis 31:12-13

For I have seen how Laban has treated you. I am the God who appeared to you at Bethel, the place where you anointed the pillar of stone and made your vow to me. Now get ready and leave this country and return to the land of your birth.

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God Sees.

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Genesis 31:14-16,21

Rachel and Leah responded, "That's fine with us! We won't inherit any of our father's wealth anyway. He has reduced our rights to those of foreign women. And after he sold us, he wasted the money you paid him for us. All the wealth God has given you from our father legally belongs to us and our children. So go ahead and do whatever God has told you. So Jacob took all his possessions with him and crossed the Euphrates River, heading for the hill country of Gilead.

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When Jacob learned to believe rather than bargain, God led him to the land of healing

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For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling: he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock. PSALM 27:5