

Youth Sunday Devotional – 05/17/2020

Read: Genesis 29

Observing the Text

Answer the following:

Why did Jacob work for Laban? Why did he work joyfully?



How did Laban Trick Jacob?

Why did Jacob hate Leah?

Interpreting the Text

When reading this text, there is little connection that you might make to the people and Christ. After all Jacob marries not one but two women, something that Jesus certainly never did. Jacob worked for seven years to marry the first and another seven to marry the second! What would you have to receive to work fourteen years to get? Needless to say Jacob was desperate to marry Rachel so desperate that he married the older daughter first despite having been tricked and lied to for seven years prior. In the Text it describes Leah as having “weak eyes”, this can mean a few different things. Some say that it simply means that she didn’t see well and she needed extra care. However, there is another way to understand it, her having weak eyes may be a gentle way of saying that she was unattractive, or her eyes were not attractive. This is contrasted with Rachel who “was beautiful in form and appearance. Jacob wanted to marry Rachel because she was the prettier sister. Again, you might be thinking, so what? The passage tells us that God saw the Leah was hated and made her the mother of the first-born children of Jacob. Though she was rejected she was blessed by God. She had children, one of which was Judah. King David was from the line of Judah, that means without Leah David would not have been born. And again, the messiah was to come from the line of David. Jesus was a descendant of David. Leah isn’t the only one who was rejected or despised in the family tree of Jesus. I encourage you to read his genealogy and see how many people are a surprise to you on that list. Even more so, Jesus was described as the stone rejected that became the corner stone. Jesus was also rejected, and through Christ we all have salvation. Like through Leah we have Jesus, through Jesus we have salvation and the Church!

How Can We Apply it?

Answer the following with your family, mentor groups and friends:

1) What is something you desperately want in your life? What would you do to get it? Would you consider this thing an Idol?

2) What motivates your behavior? What makes you do the things that you do?

3) How can you apply this story to your life today?