

MARCH 7TH / THE RECKONING / GENESIS 29:16-35 To mature in your faith, you must face the worst parts of yourself.

After his encounter with God at Bethel, Jacob had a long sojourn outside the promise-land where he gets married and has children. These children fulfill the promise made to his grandfather Abraham, his father Isaac, and then him. But before Jacob can bring the promised children back to the promised land, he needs to face the sin and disillusionment that is holding him back.

READ GENESIS 29:16-35.

1. Have you ever felt indirectly confronted by God through the actions of others?

2. What do you suppose is the motivation behind God's leading Jacob to Laban? (see Proverbs 3:11-12; Galatians 6:7)

3. What might be the larger truth reflected in Jacob's deep disappointment here (Genesis 29:25)? (see Ecclesiastes 9:1; Psalm 39:7)

4. What is the motivation behind God's actions on behalf of Leah in the latter part of this passage (Genesis 29:31)?

5. How are Leah's words about her final son different from the other three (Genesis 29:35)?

6. What does this passage as a whole say to you about the God of the Bible?

God help me go where you lead me and receive your correction and grace along the way.