

## PURSUING GOD'S PLAN ~ Genesis 29:1-14

→ Scripture Reading Rom. 12:1-2, Phil. 4:6-8

### PICKING UP THE PACE ~ Genesis 29:1-3

[1] Then Jacob **continued** on his journey and came to **the land of the eastern peoples**.

#### God Revealed Himself to Jacob and the FOCUS of his journey CHANGED

[2] **There he saw a well in the field**, with three flocks of sheep lying near it because the flocks were watered from that well. The stone over the mouth of the well was large. [3] When all the flocks were gathered there, the **shepherds would roll the stone** away from the well's mouth and water the sheep. **Then they would return the stone to its place over the mouth of the well.**

### A CHILLY WELCOME ~ Genesis 39:4-8

[4] Jacob asked the shepherds, "My brothers, where are you from?" "We're from Haran," they replied. [5] He said to them, "Do you know Laban, Nahor's grandson?" "Yes, we know him," they answered. [6] Then Jacob asked them, "Is he well?" "Yes, he is," they said, "and here comes his daughter Rachel with the sheep." [7] "Look," he said, "**the sun is still high**; it is **NOT TIME for the flocks to be gathered**. Water the sheep and take them back to pasture." [8] "We can't," they replied, "**until all the flocks are gathered** and the stone has been rolled away from the mouth of the well. Then we will water the sheep."

### LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT ??? ~ Genesis 29:9-14

[9] While he was still talking with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep, for she was a shepherdess. [10] When Jacob saw Rachel daughter of Laban, his mother's brother, and Laban's sheep, he went over and rolled the stone away from the mouth of the well and watered his uncle's sheep. [11] Then Jacob kissed Rachel and began to weep aloud. [12] He had told Rachel that he was a relative of her father and a son of Rebekah. So she ran and told her father. [13] As soon as Laban heard the news about Jacob, his sister's son, **he hurried to meet him**. He embraced him and kissed him and brought him to his home, and there **Jacob told him all these things**. [14] Then Laban said to him, "You are my own flesh and blood..."

### APPLICATION

Jacob BELIEVED God and then Responded to God with OBEDIENCE

FAITH and OBEDIENCE are bound together. The person that obeys God, trusts God; and the person that trusts God obeys God. CH Spurgeon

**Romans 12:1-2** (JBP) With eyes wide open to the mercies of God, I beg you, my brothers, as an act of intelligent worship, to give him your bodies, as a living sacrifice, consecrated to him and acceptable by him. [2] Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mould...

**Philippians 4:6-7** (NIV) Do NOT be ANXIOUS about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. [7] And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. [8] Finally, brothers, whatever is **true**, whatever is **noble**, whatever is **right**, whatever is **pure**, whatever is **lovely**, whatever is **admirable** - if anything is **excellent** or **praiseworthy** **THINK ABOUT SUCH THINGS**.

## APPLICATION

**Jacob is Discovering that...**

- God is REAL
- God can be TRUSTED

**OBEY -**

**REST -**

**TRUST -**

**PRAISE -**

**1 Timothy 6:6-7** (ESV) Now there is great gain in GODLINESS with CONTENTMENT...

## TAKE AWAY ??

**Philippians 1:6** (HCS) I am sure of this, that He who STARTED a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

**Romans 6:23** (NIV) For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.