

Cell Notes

Genesis 29:1-30 'I want to know what love is...'

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This Sunday we looked at Genesis 29 and consider Jacob and Leah's search for fulfilment, or in the words of Mariah Carey, their cry of 'I want to know what love is...'. We consider their SEARCH, how they SNATCHED at the opportunity to fulfil their search, and the STING that accompanied their snatch. Some questions may be quite personal and therefore smaller groups might well be more helpful during discussions.

Questions:

1. This passage has sometimes been preached from different perspectives, and although there are principles to be learnt 'positively', would you agree that there seems to be an unhealthy 'obsession/search' in Jacob and Leah? (See v11, 15-18, and 21)? Or not? Did Leah have any choice in that society?
2. What do you think about the point that Ernest Becker (author) makes about modern people who think humanity is here by accident, needing to search for something that gives them purpose and fulfilment...is it true of our society still? In what ways do people try to fill the gap? (jobs, relationships, money, popularity, kids)
 - a. Maybe share testimonies of how obviously (like Jacob) and subtly (like Leah) you/we have tried to fill the gap (remember some things are good but shouldn't be God! After all God did say it is not good for man to be alone!)
3. We can respond to disillusionment like Jacob (blame ourselves and try harder), like Leah (move on to the next thing...from marriage to kids – see what the names of her first few kids means) or we can look to Jesus.
 - a. Which ways are you prone to respond to disillusionment? The people you know?

It would be great to then pray/lead in to a time of worship that would focus on Christ's ultimate sufficiency – possibly start by reading out scripture that speak of Jesus giving life in all its fullness, satisfying our thirst and our hunger.