

Day 43: Genesis 30:1-24: More of Jacob's Children



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Rachel barren: envious of Leah; demanding of Jacob; gave her servant Bilhah to give birth on her behalf as Sarah had done: Gen 16:1-2

Jacob angry, complied: understood God is the provider of life; did not pray for his wife as Isaac had done; took Bilhah as a wife

Bilhah bore two sons: named by Rachel; Dan: associated with the word judge, and Naphtali: associated with the word wrestling

Leah also gave her servant, Zilpah, as a surrogate: Leah named these sons Gad for good fortune and Asher for happy

Conflict and bartering between sisters: Rachel got mandrakes (love fruits) and Leah got Jacob for the night

Leah prayed for children: God listened and she bore Issachar, related to wages or hire; Zebulun related to honor, and a daughter, Dinah: judgment

God remembered Rachel: listened to her, gave her a son; Joseph means "may he add" and sounds like "taken away"

Assignment:

How is God working through conflict and manipulation in Jacob's family to keep his promises and reveal his care to individuals?

Read 1st Samuel chapter 1: How was Hannah's reaction to being barren different from Rachel's?

How has the Lord worked in and through strife in your life?