



GOSPEL COMMUNITIES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. ***Review Gospel Appointment documents and distribute people to follow-up with from planning center.***
2. **WhizKids** - WE ARE LOOKING FOR TUTORS! We started a faith-based tutoring program with the hope of making a difference in the lives of under-privileged children who are struggling academically. We're excited to continue our partnership with Moreau Heights Elementary.
- **Want more info? Check out somajc.org/whizkids/**
3. **Volunteers** — Not only does the body of Christ grow stronger, so does the spiritual life of the individual believer. You can make a difference in the lives of others – begin sharing your time and talents today! There are many opportunities waiting for you, on a weekly or rotating basis – and 95% of them take less than two hours per week. We have a team ready to help you find the perfect fit.
- **Want to help? Text “Help” (573) 363-4166**
4. **Jake and Carlie Wise** — a Message from Jake: Hey, everyone! Carlie is doing great! She is still slowly coming out of sedation but is very strong and defying all complications in her way. No visitors for this week or this weekend. Thank you so much for the cards, notes, and continued prayers. I can't wait for her to wake up and get to see how loved she is! One specific way you can pray is for wisdom when it comes to housing. I have been making calls and will be seeing a place or two soon. We will have to be in St. Louis for three months as she undergoes tests and rehabilitation. She is strong!
- **If you would like to donate please bring it Sunday morning or go to somajc.org/give and click the tab for Jake and Carlie. Thank you so much for your generosity!**
5. **Affordable Christmas** — Affordable Christmas is our holiday project that offers a dignified way to help under-resourced parents that we already work with to provide a comfortable and joyful Christmas for their children. Rather than giving away gifts, we work effectively to provide families with a unique experience. This is birthed out of relationships with those we love – relationships with people who were not looking for someone to feel sorry for them, but rather desired an opportunity to provide Christmas for their families.
- **We will have AC December 7th 9a - 2p**

QUESTIONS

In Chapter 27 we learned that Jacob tricked his way into a birthright and a blessing that rightfully belonged to his older brother Esau. Esau became so angry he threatened to kill Jacob after his father Isaac died. When Rebekah got wind of this, she had to protect her little boy and get him out of town...quickly. In what may have been another manipulation of her husband Isaac, Rebekah told her husband she just could not stand for Jacob to marry one of those Hittite women. Isaac called for Jacob and told him he must not marry a wife from the Canaanite women so he must go to Padan-aram to his uncle Laban's house and there marry one of Laban's daughters. Note the instruction from his father Isaac was to marry ONE of Laban's daughters. Let's read on in the next couple of chapters and see how that turned out.

Read Genesis 29:1-30

Questions:

1. In the first four verses of Chapter 29, we see that Jacob has set out on his trip to his uncle Laban's house and has encountered some herdsmen. What did Jacob do when he ran upon these herdsmen?
2. When Jacob finds out he is in the country of his uncle Laban and his grandfather Abraham, what did he do?
3. During his conversation with the herdsmen he found out that Rachel was within shouting distance of the well where Jacob was at. What was going through Jacob's mind at this point and what did he do?
4. Rebekah left and went to tell her father about Jacob. Laban went to greet Jacob and welcomed him into his home where Jacob remained for a month. At the end of the month's stay, Jacob and Laban struck a deal. What were the details of that deal? What other insights do you take away from this deal?
5. The 7 years went by quickly because of Jacob's immense love for Rachel. The wedding night soon came and the "family traditions" rear their ugly head again. What happened next?
6. In Genesis 29:25, Jacob is obviously upset and confronts Laban over the issue of him switching out the daughters by asking "What is this you have done to me?". Laban responded that it was not the custom in his country to give the second daughter before the first. What do we see about God's nature in this story?

7. A settlement between Laban and Jacob was reached. What was this agreement and what problems are inherent to it?

Read Genesis 29:31 – 30:24

8. God as he so often does, uses the “least of these”, the “most unexpected” to accomplish His plans. Verse 31 says that the Lord saw Leah was hated and he opened her womb, but Rachel was barren. Beginning with Chapter 29 verse 32 and going through Chapter 30 verse 24, the downward spiral of the family continues. Describe what happened and how this is nothing more than a continuance of sin in the family reaching back to the patriarch Abraham?

As soon as Joseph, the last son born to Jacob and Rachel was born, Jacob decided it was time to go back home. He told Laban to give him his wives and children so that he could go home but Laban had other thoughts. Next week we finish up the rest of this story