

Guaranteed to Satisfy 7 July 2024

What happens to a life that is obsessed with the wrong thing? Have you experienced a time when your misplaced focus led to disappointment?

Read Genesis 29:4-6 & 15-30

Jacob is smitten with Rachel and thinks she will fulfill his dreams, but Laban has a different plan. Can you share about a time when you thought your dream was being fulfilled but were disappointed in the outcome?

Clay related what C.S. Lewis said are the three responses to disappointment:

- 1. Blame
- 2. Give up/despair
- 3. Interpret disappointment as a whisper from Heaven that we are not meant for this world Which of these has been your most frequent response? Have you moved beyond the first two responses to the third response?

What does God do when we put something else in His place?

Read Hosea 1:2-5, 3:1-5, 4:11-12, 9:1, 14:1-4, 9.

These passages provide an overview of the story of Hosea and the prostitute Gomer. God directed Hosea to marry Gomer and then after she is unfaithful Hosea purchased her and took her back as his wife. Similarly, God was faithful to Israel when Israel was repeatedly unfaithful. How have you experienced God's patience and passionate pursuit?

Discuss who you relate to most in the story of Jacob, Rachel, and Leah.

Read Genesis 29:31-35.

How does it encourage you that Leah seems to have turned from Jacob to the Lord as her source of fulfilment and purpose? How is Leah ultimately honored for her faithfulness?

