

Where Is God When We Hurt?

Session 2 ~ When Love Lets Us Down

Genesis 29:16-35

God's hiddenness is an _____ to an _____.

Knowing the context and culture of Scripture enables us to interpret the evidence we find. The goal of Bible reading, after all, isn't just to get answers to our questions but to hear what God is saying and find answers to the questions we may not even know to ask.

Leah and Rachel were engaged in an ongoing _____.

God saw the pain Jacob's preference for Rachel caused Leah, despite Jacob's blindness to it.

The Bible repeatedly reveals God's heart to _____ the _____.

When Leah bore a son, she experienced an _____ - _____ reversal.

The names Leah gave her first three children reveal her desperation, her expectation of winning Jacob's love with sons, and her faith in God's compassion.

1. **Reuben** whose name meant _____ (*Genesis 29:32*)
2. **Simeon** whose name meant _____ (*Genesis 29:33*)
3. **Levi** whose name meant _____ (*Genesis 29:34*)

When her fourth son was born, Leah changed her focus.

4. **Judah** whose name meant _____ (*Genesis 29:35*)

God uses our struggles to make us stronger.

Leah's legacy includes:

- _____
- _____
- _____

When we feel unloved:

- **Cultivate** _____
- **Care** _____
- **Concentrate** _____
- **Carry** _____

Discussion Questions

1. How did Leah's context and culture affect her decisions and interpretation of her situation?
How do you think she felt about her father's deception?
2. Where did Leah find God? In what ways did she experience his love? What can we learn from her about living in less-than-perfect relationships?
3. Can you identify with Leah in any of her struggles? If so, where?
4. What has been most helpful to you when you've felt unloved?

Pray for each other and anyone you know who is struggling with feeling unloved.