

## Genesis 30-32 Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. From Gen 31:1-13 what did Jacob hear (v1) and observe (v2)? What did the Lord say (v3) and how did Jacob respond (v4)? How did he convince his wives (v5, 6, 7-9, 10-12, 13)?

5. In 31:14-21 what response did Rachel and Leah give (v14, 15, 16)? In what manner did they leave (v17-18, 21) and how did deception enter into this exit (v19, 20)?

6. Looking at 31:22-35 when did Laban find out (v22) and what did he do (v23)? Describe the encounter (25-28, 30-35) and how God protected Jacob (v24, 29).

7. Read 31:36-42. How did Jacob vindicate himself before Laban (v36-37, 38, 39, 40, 41) and to whom did he give the credit (v42)? Was he justified to react this way?

8. Using 31:43-55 what was Laban's answer (v43) and proposal (v44)? How did he insure its being kept (v45-49, 51-52, 53) and what was his concern (v50)? How did Jacob seal it (v54-55)?

9. From 32:1-21 who did Jacob encounter (v1) and why was this important (v7)? List the ways he tried to soften Esau (v3-5, 6-8, 13-16, 17-20)? How did he enlist God's help (v9-12)?

10. In 32:22-32 with whom was Jacob left all night (v22-24) and what occurred (v24-25, 31-32)? What did the "man" ask (v26), what did Jacob want (26), and what was the outcome (v27-30)? Why was this significant?

11. Looking back at Jacob's journey what problems did he face that "broke" him (29:21-30; 30:1, 25-28; 31:1-2, 6-7, 22-42; 32:6-7, 24-32)? What can we learn from this?

### Scripture to Remember

*"May the Lord watch between you and me when we are absent one from the other."*

**Genesis 31:49 (NASV)**

### Celebration Fellowship

*Help—Hope—Healing*

**We're on the web**

**[www.thehospitalchurch.com](http://www.thehospitalchurch.com)**

### One Month to Live Group Questions—Leave Boldly

*(Using questions based on today's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)*

1. Everyone write down what you hope your obituary says about you. Let several share that with the group. Then, watch the DVD and consider how to make that happen.
2. How do you rate on the "influence" and "affluence" meter (p176-78)? Practically how can you invest yourself personally in others and your money in things that matter?
3. Share with the group some of your deepest convictions or values and how you are trying to pass those on to the next generation. Who do you most hope will get these?
4. What is "character"? Specifically how do you "trust", "delight in", and "commit to" the Lord to build positive character traits that can impact others?
5. Think of one person or one ministry that you can make a tangible difference with. How can you do this? Why is it important to do this in "community" rather than just by yourself?
6. What does it mean to leave a "legacy of grace"? Why does this require accepting God's forgiveness as well as extending forgiveness? How do these work together?
7. What appeals to you most and least about heaven? How will our investments in God's Word, our character, and people impact our eternal experience in heaven?



# THE BIG THREE

Studies in the Genesis 12-36

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## Coming Home Introduction to Genesis 30-32

*Coming Home*, the 1978 movie about the difficulties of returning home after war, is similar to Jacob's situation when he came back to Canaan after twenty years. During his stay in the land of his relatives he was sovereignly blessed, acquiring two wives, many children, and great possessions. Genesis 30-32 first details the continuing growth of his family as Rachel, who was barren, gives her maid, Bilhah, to Jacob to have children. She gave birth first to Dan, then to Naphtali. Zilpah, Leah's maid, then bore Gad and Asher. After this Rachel purchased an aphrodisiac from Leah for the price of an evening with Jacob, and she became pregnant with Issachar; she then had Zebulun a little later. After Dinah was born Rachel finally had a son, Joseph. Thus eleven of

the twelve sons or tribes of Jacob (Israel) had been born; only Benjamin remained. At this point Jacob told Laban, Rachel's dad, that he wanted to go back home and they agreed that his wages would be any animal of the flocks that were not of a solid color. Unexpectedly his flocks grew—because of God's blessing—and Laban became increasingly hostile. So it was time for Jacob to secretly leave for home. God had told him to do this in a dream, so he went and told his wives (Laban's daughters). They all agreed it was time so they gathered up all their possessions (including Laban's household idols) and left in the night unannounced. When Laban heard about this he pursued them; but God had told him not to harm them. When he caught



**God provided a foundation of faith for Israel through their first three leaders.**

them he asked why they had done this and Jacob rehearsed how he had been mistreated and deceived by Laban. He especially resented being accused of theft although Rachel had hidden the evidence in her saddle. The story finally closes with Jacob's struggle with insecurity. He has to meet Esau again and has a fitful night before, in which he wrestles with God. Finally God breaks him and gives him His blessing; he is now ready to face his fears with God's brand new identity. This would enable him to bear coming home.

### The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God's pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God's family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

## Daily Study Questions for Genesis 30-32

(For answers to questions attend an ABF or go to [www.celebrationnet.com](http://www.celebrationnet.com), small groups, abf)

<p>1. Scan Genesis 30:1-24. List all the children of Jacob (v6, 8, 11, 13, 18, 20, 21, 24). What significance did Rachel (v1-3, 6, 7-8, 22-23) and Leah (v9-13, 15, 18, 20) attach to these births?</p>	
<p>2. From 30:25-34 what did Jacob request (v25-26) and how did Laban respond (v27-28)? What "deal" did Jacob propose (29-33) and why do you think Laban agreed (v34)?</p>	
<p>3. Using 30:35-43 how did Jacob carry out the plan (v35, 36, 37-42) and what was the result (v42-43)?</p>	

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