



GROW. PRAY. SERVE.

SERIES: Relationships—Gaining Traction in Our Relationships

Message: “Put a Ring On It”

PRAYER: Almighty God, we give you praise for all of our relationships. Give us the strength to make a commitment to our relationships, so that we might experience the joy, fellowship and intimacy that each relationship has to offer. In the matchless name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

ICEBREAKER: Read Genesis 29 as a group.

INTRODUCTION: Jacob had a long history of broken relationships. At Bethel, he encounters God and things change. He then begins the work of building strong, long-term committed relationships. When our vertical relationship is strong, our horizontal relationships will be easier.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Can you look back on your life and see times when God was working behind the scene for your future good, even when you were unaware? Share one of those times. Are there times when you are not excited to see distant relatives? Why or why not? Why do our families cause some of the biggest pain we encounter? Share your family stories.
2. In contrast to Abraham’s humble and gracious servant, Jacob offered nothing but his own services for the hand of Rachel. How can we become so consumed with what we desire that we will sacrifice anything to get it?
3. How do you learn best? From watching others, life experiences, schooling, etc. Jacob seemed to learn best from mistakes. Explain how you learn best?
4. Have you ever been tricked or conned by someone? Have you ever tricked or conned anyone? How do both experiences make you feel?
5. God has taken care of Jacob, Rachel, and Leah even though they went through a lot of trouble. How has God taken care of you through your trials, pains, and successes?

CHALLENGE: Take a moment to reflect on your relationships: are you operating with integrity? Can your words be trusted? Are you reliable? Have you made a commitment to the people in your life? Take time to pray about these things right now.

CHAMPION TIP: Relationships take investment, use this moment to reinforce the significance of the covenant that your group has made to one another. Raise the question, “How can we better serve each other?”