

CELL GROUP DISCUSSION STARTERS

OPENING QUESTION

1. Why do you think humans have such a deep longing for love?

CONTENT EXPLANATION

2. Read Genesis 27:41-45

What had happened to lead to these events? What does Jacob lose in the process?

3. Read Genesis 29:16-20

What motivates Jacob for this kind of service? How do you see this kind of motivation reflected in society today?

4. How are Jacob and Laban similar? We are often blind to our own failing until we see it in someone else. How true is this of you?

Hint: they are both deceitful cheats!

5. Why is Leah the saddest character in this story?

6. How does she respond to her situation?

Hint: in exactly the same way that Jacob did!

7. Look at the names that Leah gives to her children – what does this show us about her hopes and expectations?

8. Putting your hope in love/sex/romance is one way people look for validation. What are other ways people do this?

9. What is the 'cosmic disappointment of sin'?¹

10. According to the Second Commandment – what is sin?

CONTENT APPLICATION

11. To what/whom are you looking for validation (sense of value, worth and purpose) in this life?

12. The great...great grandson of Judah was the son no one wanted. How was Jesus unwanted? Why did he come as the unwanted son?

13. An idol cannot be removed, it must be replaced. How does Christ replace every and any idol?

¹ A term used by Tim Keller