

# GENESIS: Where Grace Begins

## Lessons from Laban – Genesis 31

**Context:**

### 6 Lessons:

1) God – who is sovereign over every detail of our lives – sometimes creates the necessary conditions to \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_.

God's plan required Jacob's return to \_\_\_\_\_.

God used two tools to prod Jacob:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Sometimes God must move us \_\_\_\_\_ towards His will because we tend to favor \_\_\_\_\_. Sometimes it takes \_\_\_\_\_ experiences to make us change our ways.

Remember: God is \_\_\_\_\_ to our sanctification!

2) As God's people, we should live \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in spite of the conditions around us and the challenges to us.

We should not expect God to bless \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Also, we must always resist the temptation to allow \_\_\_\_\_ to determine \_\_\_\_\_. (This includes blaming our bad behavior on the bad behavior of others.)

We are – and will always be – \_\_\_\_\_ to God for our holiness.

3) Our \_\_\_\_\_ (or authenticity) is validated or invalidated by what we consistently \_\_\_\_.

Those closest to us will \_\_\_\_\_ who we really are and what we really believe by what they see us \_\_\_\_\_ to do and how we \_\_\_\_\_ to respond to life as it comes.

Jacob's wives (aka Laban's daughters) did not hesitate in following Jacob, even though it meant abandoning their father. Why?

Through the YEARS, though imperfect as he was, it was clear that \_\_\_\_\_ was on the right of this conflict.

4) In ways we cannot possibly see or understand, our promise-keeping, ever-faithful God is \_\_\_\_\_ us from evil, \_\_\_\_\_ for our needs, and \_\_\_\_\_ us for whatever is next.

Knowing/believing this means we \_\_\_\_\_ to take care of us! Don't pull a \_\_\_\_\_!

**The end result:**

The treaty would recognize Jacob as a separate, independent people by its dual representations: two stone memorials, two meals, two names for the memorials, two names of deity, and the delineation of two ethnic groups.

Jacob (and the people of God) are back on course.

The hero of the story is \_\_\_\_\_, who keeps His promises throughout generations.

*A note on "Mizpah" and the right and wrong uses of scripture:*

*Next week: Genesis 32 – A Reunion with Fate*