

# Relational Idolatry

Genesis 29:15-30:1 / 06-30-19 / Jason Custer

## GETTING STARTED

What are the three most important relationships to you right now? Why?

## OVERVIEW

Because people are made in the image of God, it's easy to put relationships with them in the place of God - to expect spouses, children, or family to give us what only God can give. But when we put God first and other relationships second (in their proper place), we are actually better able to love those around us instead of putting a crushing weight on their shoulders they can't bear.

## DIG DEEPER

1. What impacted you most from the sermon this week?
2. **Read Genesis 29:15-20:** What relationship do you enjoy putting time into, so much that any amount of time "feels like a few days because of the love [you have]"?
  - o What signs did Jacob miss because he was smitten with Rachel?
3. **Read Genesis 29:21-30:** What verb is most repeated in relation to Laban in this passage?
  - o What verb is repeated most in relation to Jacob here?
  - o What does the contrast between these two verbs teach us about idols?
4. **Read Genesis 29:31-35:** How does Leah think God will show her she is loved?
  - o Why do you think Leah finally ceases bearing children in **29:35**?

## APPLY

5. **Read Luke 10:26:** Which relationship listed seems hardest to "hate" compared to God?
  - o What are the dangers of loving specific relationships more than God?
6. Use these questions to help you identify if you have any relational idols:
  - o Where do you gladly spend your time/money?   o What/who do you love most?
  - o Where do you say, "Give me [this relationship] or life isn't worth living!" to God?
7. When you feel unlovely or unloved, where are you tempted to turn for love/acceptance?
  - o How has God shown you love when you felt unloved/unlovely?
8. How can you *practically* dethrone relational idols and put God first *this week*?