

## *“Heroes Of The Faith” – JACOB*

**INTRODUCTION: Hebrews 11:21 ... “Faith” – Hebrews 11:1-2**

**Genesis 29:9-11** – Jacob falls in love with Rachel.

**29:15-19** – Jacob agrees to work for Rachel for 7 years.

- Rachel was beautiful, but Leah wasn’t – **29:17**

**29:21-26** – Jacob is tricked into marrying Leah ... think how Leah must have felt!

- Leah was in a bad marriage, and Jacob refused to love her.

**29:31-32** – God blesses Leah through her children – Isaiah 55:9

- Leah gave Jacob something that Rachel couldn’t give him.

- “*God often works in our lives, not by giving us a perfect situation, but by showing His power and love in our very imperfect situations.*”

- Leah was drawn closer to God ... Rachel drove herself deeper into herself ... God looks at the HEART, not outward beauty.

**31:3** – Jacob heads back home, and sends messengers on ahead to Esau  
– **32:6**

**32:9-12** – Jacob PRAYS, reminding God of His PROMISES.

- Whenever you feel overwhelmed, remember God’s PROMISES.

**32:26** – Jacob wrestles with God, in human form.

**32:27-29** – God changes Jacob’s name to “*Israel*” – “*God rules*”.

- This was the beginning of a CHANGE in Jacob’s life.

- When God SAVED you, He gave you a new name, blessed you, and crippled your old nature.

**CONCLUSION:** Do you feel like Leah ... that you can’t please God  
no matter how hard you try?

**35:1** – God called Jacob back to Bethel.

**35:9-13** – Maybe we should take a trip back to where God saved us, and start all over.

**35:14-15** – We should make an “*offering*” to God – **Romans 12:1-3**

- Put God on the throne ... de-throne yourself!

- Desire God’s “*blessing*” on your life ... re-commit yourself to live in FAITH ... to be all that God has saved you to be.