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**ROOTS**  
*A Study in Genesis*



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**LESSON 20 GENESIS 34-36**

1. What truth or insight was food for your soul from **Genesis 32-33**, and how have you or will you rely on it when you face challenges?
  
2. As you read **Genesis 34-36**, pray and ask God to reveal His purposes in including these difficult chapters of Jacob's life. May your time in this Scripture give you a clearer understanding of God's ways.
  
3. **Genesis 34** begins many years after **Genesis 33** ends. Jacob's children are now adults and they have remained in Shechem although God called Jacob to Bethel (**Genesis 31:13**). Read **Genesis 34:1-4** and summarize the situation and crime chronicled there.
  
4. a) From **V5-7**, contrast Jacob's reaction to his sons' reactions.  
  
b) Considering what you know about Jacob, including his love for Rachel (**Genesis 29:30**), what are some possible reasons for his lack of response?
  
5. a) In **V8-12**, what is the bargain that Hamor and Shechem try to strike with Jacob and his sons and what are the potential advantages of the "deal" from each point of view?  
  
b) Comment on some of the dangers of intermarriage for those who seek to follow God's ways. Refer to **Deuteronomy 7: 3-6** or **Ezra 9:10-12** for God's view on this subject.

6. What was the reply of Jacob's sons<sup>2</sup> to Hamor and Shechem according to **V13-17**, and how did they appeal to the men of the city to get their agreement (**V18-24**)?
7. **V25-31** recounts a very disturbing incident resulting in the loss of innocent life, which stirs a range of emotions in us.
- Who was involved and what happened? What became of Dinah?
  - Characterize Jacob's reaction to Dinah's brothers and the nature of his concerns?
8. When have you seen or struggled with sin patterns in your own family, and how has this incident in Jacob's story been a sober warning about the consequences of sin or partial obedience?
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9. a) While there is no mention of God in **Genesis 34**, God is mentioned many times in **Genesis 35:1-15**, in which He appeared to Jacob again. In **V1-7**, what were God's instructions to Jacob and what actions of obedience did Jacob take?
- Why do you think Jacob was concerned with the foreign gods in his household and what might that concern reflect about his heart attitude? How does Paul's warning against idolatry in **2 Corinthians 6:14-17** connect with this situation?
10. In **V9-15**, why do you think God reminded Jacob of his new name and reaffirmed His promises? How did Jacob express his worship of God in **V14-15**?

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11. According to **V16-20**, what were the circumstances of Rachel's death? What facts of Isaac's death do you find interesting from **V27-29**.
  
  12. Jacob's sons are listed in **V23-26** and Esau's descendants are listed in **Genesis 36**. **Genesis 25:23** reminds us that there are two peoples; who you think these 'two peoples' are today?
  
  13. What lessons or truths from these chapters on Jacob's life may **ROOT** out patterns of sin in your life? How will the sober warnings in this passage help you **ROOT** them out as you stay grounded in His Word?
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**"GOSPEL GLIMPSES"**: Throughout the Book of Genesis, we will see previews of Jesus, and a foreshadowing of the Gospel (The Salvation Story).

Jacob's sons became judge and jury and decimated an entire town for the crime of one man. One day God, through Jesus, will carry out His righteous judgment of our sinful world.

1. From **Deuteronomy 32:35** and **Hebrews 10:30-31**, what truths does Scripture teach about God as judge?
  
2. Read **Romans 2:1-12** and think through these questions:
  - a) According to **V1-4**, how does the judgment of one person by another person differ from the judgment by God?
  
  - b) From **V5-11**, explain how God's righteous judgment works. Who receives eternal life, and who receives God's wrath?
  
3. In the face of God's judgment, what great hope do you have from **Romans 3:23-24** and **6:23** (or find another hope-full verse)?
  
4. a) Write out the Suggested Memory Verse: **Genesis 35:2** or **Romans 2:4**

b) Allow God's kindness to lead you to repentance and begin your prayer here.

**NAME**

**PRAYER REQUEST**