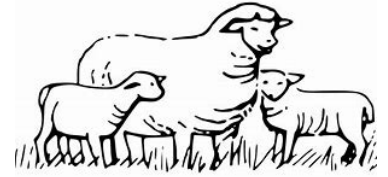


*Questions for Reflection and Discussion*  
**Genesis 29**  
**When you face adversity look for God's blessings**

*Read the whole story of Jacob and Esau with your group. (Ch. 27-33)*



1. In adversity we flee to safety. (v.1-14)
  - a. What is the context of Jacob leaving his home?
  - b. What was the promise God made to Jacob? Was this promise new to Jacob?
  - c. How does Jacob's interaction with the shepherds show how he lives his life?
  - d. What were the two material things Jacob had in mind when he found out he made it to his location?
  - e. When did the story take a major change? (v.14)
2. In adversity, obvious safety can be a trap. (v.15-30)
  - a. When did Jacob understand he was no longer safe?
  - b. What are the similarities of Laban and Jacob?
  - c. What are the differences between Laban and Jacob?
  - d. While Jacob was facing adversity, what was his response?
  - e. What does this story say of God that he blessed Jacob despite Jacob's trickery?
3. When adversity strikes, look for God's blessings. (H.P.) (31-33)
  - a. What is the main idea of the story? (key: it's found in the blessing).
  - b. What are some practical lessons we can pull out of this narrative concerning how God leads those he calls?
  - c. How can you personally apply the lessons in this story to your life?
  - d. What are the blessings in your life?
  - e. What is THE BLESSING in your life that comes from the promise/covenant of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob/Israel? (Act 13:32-39; Lk 4:18-21; see Isa 61:1-2; 58:6).