

SERMON NOTES

Genesis 29:15-35 – Hope and Disappointment

Questions for family/small group discussions:

The stories of Jacob and Laban reveal a dysfunctional family mess. We all have some level of dysfunction in our immediate or extended family. What is some of that dysfunction and sin and how might God be working in the midst of it all?

We consider 6 lessons that are revealed in our story.

The Bad News...

1. Your sin will often come back to _____ you.

- When you consider Proverbs 13:15 and some of the ways that your sin has ricocheted to come back and hurt you, where have you most experienced sin's consequences and what could be some of the lessons from the pain?

2. There will always be deep _____.

- What have been some of your deepest disappointments in life and what made them so deep and painful? What have you learned through the disappointment?
- What things are most commonly offered up to us today that "when morning came," turn out to be "Leah"? (see Gen. 29:25) What might be the things you are most tempted to put your hope in today?

3. _____ of _____ will make your life worse.

- When you read Gen. 29:32 and 34, you can see how desperately Leah is looking for love, acceptance, and fulfillment through the love of her husband and children. What might be some evidences that your life could be revolving more around family than around Christ and his mission?
- How does our Western Michigan/Rockford subculture reinforce/encourage some idolatry of family? How could you repent and make some changes toward Christ as your supreme love and hope?

The Good News...

1. God works with _____ people.

- What is the great encouragement in seeing that God shows grace to those who resist, fail, and don't appreciate it? How have you seen this in your own life or in the lives of those around you?

2. God works _____ weak people.

- How did God ultimately use Leah for his great redemptive work for even us today? What does it mean for you when you see how God uses people like Jacob, Laban, and Leah? How might this change the way that you respond to some of the messy "sinful" family members, neighbors, and co-workers that you might otherwise turn away from?

3. God works _____ weak people.

- When you see the progression for Leah in Gen. 29:31-35—until she gives praise to God, can you see how God has worked IN you through various circumstances until you were rescued and employed for his great, redemptive work?

Jesus is the true _____.

- How do you see that Jesus gave up perfect beauty and love to become homely and rejected so that you, who deserve rejection, could be made beautiful and accepted? What does it mean for you to become truly beautiful and accepted? How does this change your endless search for hope, love, and fulfillment in the substitutes?
- How did Jesus give up all power to become weak so that you can have the power to overcome the ricochet of sin in your life? Take time to pray for the power of his Spirit to help you overcome specific sins and temptations.
- When you read Rev. 19:7, how does a constant looking forward to this day change and impact us?



Order of Worship

Worship Service @ 10:00 a.m.

Prelude *Broken Vessels (Amazing Grace)*

Celebrating our Graduates

Call to Worship *Here I Am to Worship*
From the Inside Out
*** Kids are invited to KidLife downstairs*

Offering *How Deep the Father's Love for Us*

Prayer & Message Hope and Disappointment
Genesis 29:15-35 (p. 22)
Rev. Tim Meendering

Communion *In Christ Alone*

Closing Blessing

Next Week Alone in the Wind - Luke 14:25-35

welcome to Rockford Reformed Church!

In this program you will find today's order of worship, along with announcements, a calendar, prayer requests, and more. If this is your first time here, please stop by our welcome table in the lobby and pick up a gift bag!



Rockford Reformed Church

4890 11 Mile Road NE
Rockford, MI 49341

616-866-2308

RockfordRC.org
connect@rockfordrc.org

Office Hours:
Mon-Thurs 9:00am-2:30pm

Pastor:
Tim Meendering
Tim@rockfordrc.org

Director of Worship:
Mike Fisk
Mike@rockfordrc.org

Director of Youth Ministries:
Brian Ellis
Brian@rockfordrc.org

Director of Children's Ministries:
Beth Jennings
Beth@rockfordrc.org

Director of Kids Hope:
Emillie Clayton
Emillie@rockfordrc.org

Office Administrator:
Laura Jolliffe
Laura@rockfordrc.org



ATTENDANCE & GIVING

You can give directly from your phone or computer. Look for the link on the front page of our website. Contact the office if you would like offering envelopes.

Last week's attendance: 178 • **Last week's offering:** \$10,776

PRAYER

Congratulations to Leslie Carpenter Bolt and Burt Bolt on the birth of their son, Cohen Thomas Bolt, on May 16. Proud grandparents are **Tom & Miriam Carpenter**. Please also keep **Cohen** in your prayers as he was born 5 weeks early and is still in the hospital.

Jean Boyd - pray as she continues through chemotherapy treatments.

Bill Boyd - continues dialysis and awaits a transplant.

Be in prayer for all military personnel, people searching for jobs, and disaster victims.

Prayer teams are available in the front of the sanctuary following service for anyone who desires prayer.

WHERE DO MY KIDS GO?



If you have children, they are welcome to remain with you throughout the service, or you can choose from different options:

KidLife Worship (3 years - 2nd grade) - Check-in is in the Fellowship Hall, Room 100 (directly below the sanctuary). Kids may start service here, or go after our opening music in the sanctuary.

KidLife Nursery (0-3 years) - Room 241 (upper level of gym).

Parent-Infant Room - available near the back of the sanctuary for fussy children and nursing mothers.

Children's bulletins and crayons are available near the lobby stairs.

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|--|------------------------------|---|--|------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 6/2 10a Worship Service 6p Praise in the Park Grad Sunday Brick Orders Due | 6/3 9a Garden Help Needed | 6/4 7:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:00a Garden Help Needed 6:30p Softball | 6/5 12p Adult Fellowship - lunch will be served | 6/6 | 6/7 | 6/8 |
| 6/9 10a Worship Service One Sunday Pentecost Offering | 6/10 | 6/11 7:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30p Softball | 6/12 | 6/13 | 6/14 7a REAL Men | 6/15 8p View From the Hill |
| 6/16 10a Worship Service After-Service Social High School Mission Trip | 6/17 | 6/18 7:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30p Softball | 6/19 | 6/20 | 6/21 | 6/22 |

For a full listing of all of our events, announcements, volunteer needs, and more, be sure to sign up for the eBeacon, emailed weekly. Contact the church office at connect@rockfordrc.org and ask to be put on the list. Paper copies are available for those without email.



Congratulations 2019 Graduates!

High School Anya Fanberg
Shannon Fanberg
Travis Katsma
Allyson Orvis
Evan Orvis
Case VanderHeide

College Danae Brownell
Elena Brownell
Evan Johnson
Arabelle Rinvelt

Join us in the gym for cake following the service!



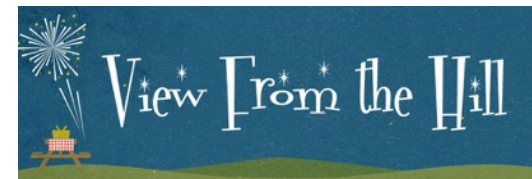
We have another landscaping project that we could use some help with! The landscaping beds at the entrance of our parking lot are being removed due to an invasive weed that keeps returning. Come when you can, bring shovels, rakes, etc. Contact Roger Hoogewind if you have any questions. **This Monday and Tuesday, 9am-12pm.**



Begins tonight! Sundays, 6:00-7:30pm at the Garden Park Stage. Come enjoy Christian music Sunday evenings at the Garden Club Park in downtown Rockford next to the dam. Bring your chairs and your friends!



June 23-26, 6-8pm. Calling all kids ages 3 years through those who are in (or have just completed) 5th grade! Join us for four nights at ROAR VBS, where kids explore God's goodness and celebrate a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life. Registration is open at rockfordrc.org/vbs.



Saturday, June 15. You are invited to enjoy the Start of Summer Celebration fireworks from the hill at Rockford Reformed Church. Starting at 8pm, come enjoy free popcorn, refreshments, and children's activities. Please bring a chair or a blanket, your family and friends, and enjoy the beauty of the fireworks from the top of the hill at RRC.