**THE GOD OF PADDAN ARAM**

(Jacob Builds His Family)

Genesis 29:1-30:24

Key Verse 29:35a “She conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son she said, ‘This time I will praise the Lord.’ So she named him Judah.”

1. Why was Jacob so moved when he met Rachel? (29:1-12) What wages did Jacob and Laban agree on and how did Jacob carry out his part of the bargain? (29:14-20) What do these events tell us about Jacob’s character?

2. How did Laban deceive Jacob on his wedding night and why? (29:21-25) What did Jacob and Laban agree to do? (29:26-30)

3. Why and how did God bless Leah? (29:31-35) What do the names of her first three sons reveal about her inner misery and her deep desire? (29:31-34) What was her 4th son’s name, and how did this name reflect a change in Leah’s thinking and life? (29:35)

4. Why was Rachel not satisfied with her husband’s love? (30:1) What did she do to solve her problem? (30:3) What do the names of the sons born by her maidservant show about her inner life? (30:6-8)

5. What did Leah name the sons borne by her maidservant? (30:9-13) What do these names show about

her inner life? How did she come to have 2 more sons and what were their names? (30:14-21) In what

way had her desires changed and how was she honored?

6. Even though Rachel finally had a son, why was she not satisfied? (30:22-24) When did she have another son and what was the consequence? (35:16-18) How did God use the struggles of Jacob and his wives to accomplish his own purpose?