

BARRENNESS To *BLESSING*

GENESIS 29:1-30:24


Sunday, February 23, 2025 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

From our **STRUGGLES**


the deceiver deceived 29:15-30 27:35-36; Galatians 6:7; Proverbs 11:18

barrenness & bitterness 29:31-30:21 16:2; 1 Samuel 1:6-7; Psalm 13:2

God shapes a **FUTURE**,

 **a passive patriarch** 29:25-30; 30:1-16 James 4:17; Proverbs 24:11-12

a legacy emerges 29:31-35; 30:22-24 Isaiah 55:11; Matthew 13:31-32

 keeping his promises and working **HIS PLAN**.

promise overcomes chaos 29:31; 30:22-24 28:14-15; Romans 8:28; Psalm 33:11

grace overcomes flaws 29:25-30; 30:1-2 32:10; Ephesians 2:8-10; 2 Corinthians 12:9



Text us at **833-271-8805**.
— Text **APP** to get our app.

Text this number anytime for prayer. Just say, “**Pray for...**” followed by your request.



Study Guide

Questions & Scripture for Further Study

What is this? – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, & live life together. **We call them Life Groups.** The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a related part of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on a Connect Card or at the Connect Desk!

Welcome to Life Group!

Getting to Know You

Part of our goal at Life Group is just learning more about each other. Toward that end, take some time to catch up with each other as you gather.

If it helps, here's a question to discuss and get you going. Have everyone answer:

Think of a funny or awkward time when your family got tangled up—maybe a mix-up, a rivalry, or someone getting the short end of the stick. What happened, and how did it turn out?

Digging Deeper – A Bible Study

Use this guide for further personal and group study this week. For the most impact in your life and in your group, *work through it on your own before you gather with your Life Group.* If your Life Group isn't gathering this week, use this guide for further study personally.

1. **Read Genesis 29:1-30:24.** Then take some time to review your message notes. Looking back, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you this week? *Discuss it with your group before moving on.*
 - How does God use those moments to teach us?
2. **Read Galatians 6:7.** We see this play out with Jacob when his deception of Isaac (**Genesis 27**) boomerangs as Laban tricks him. Where have you seen your actions—good or bad—come back to you? When you've reaped what you sewed""?
 - How did it shape your relationship with God or others?
3. Leah and Rachel's bitterness grew from feeling unloved (Leah) or unfulfilled (Rachel). If you're willing to share, what's a time you've felt barren (emotionally, spiritually, or otherwise)?
 - Pastor Josh mentioned the other women whose barrenness God overcame in the Bible (6 of them). Has he overcome any barrenness in your own life? Is there any you long for him to? (*Maybe stop now and pray with your group about it.*)

(Study Guide continues on back panel...)






PART

4

WELCOME TO WAWASEE!

This is who we hope you grow to *become* at Wawasee Bible...

If I'm truly growing as a follower of Jesus, I should be growing in the ways that I am...

- 
1 | Receiving From God. Am I reading the Word regularly? When am I gathering to hear the Word taught? What fruit of the Spirit do I see growing in my life?
- 
2 | Responding To God. How am I talking to and listening to God regularly? What are some healthy spiritual habits I'm working on (things like giving, scripture memory, repentance, rest, etc.)?
- 
3 | Receiving From Others. Where and how am I in community/friendship with other Christians in our church who have a window to speak into my life?
- 
4 | Moving Toward Others. How and where am I contributing to and initiating community with other Christians in our church? (Or am I only consuming?)
- 
5 | Going to those Far from God. How am I regularly going toward those who are far from God—loving them, sharing God's Story and my own story? When was the last time I shared God's story and/or my faith story? Who is on my PEARL list?

WORD FIND IN THE WORD

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

Word Find: Revelation 21:1-4 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

¹ **Then** I saw a new **heaven** and a new **earth**, for the **first heaven** and the **first earth** had **passed away**, and the sea was no **more**. ² And I saw the **holy city**, new **Jerusalem**, **coming** down out of **heaven** from God, **prepared** as a **bride adorned** for her **husband**. ³ And I **heard** a **loud voice** from the **throne saying**, "**Behold**, the **dwelling place** of God is with man. He will **dwell** with them, and they will be his **people**, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe **away every tear** from their **eyes**, and **death** shall be no **more**, **neither** shall **there** be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have **passed away**!"

J E R U S A L E M F E C
I A W A Y H P L A C E I
I R B R I D E A T H P T
F T H E N D O E V E R Y
L H R H W U P A S S E D
F E B E H O L D O E P Y
G R M A U I E Y E S A T
V E O V S A Y I N G R H
O S R E B N E I T H E R
I V E N A D O R N E D O
C O M I N G A T E A R N
E L O U D W E L L R V E
F I R S T H O L Y D F V

life groups Study Guide (continued)

4. Jacob didn't see his sons' births as nation-building, but God did. Where do you see small, quiet moments in your life where might be shaping a bigger future?
- Read the passages below, then discuss: How can we trust God in the unseen? As you answer, get practical... what's one real life, real world thing you can do *this week* to trust him?

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 **Psalms 13:1-2, 5-6** **Job 23:8-10**

5. Jacob's family was a mess—deceit, rivalry, schemes—yet God's promise held. Share a chaotic time when you later saw God's plan at work. How does that strengthen your trust in His promises today?

²⁷ And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will. ²⁸ And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. **ROMANS 8:27-28** (NLT)

Taking it Home

6. Jacob's flaws—deception, passivity—didn't stop God's grace. What flaw do you wrestle with? How have you seen or could you see God's grace turn it into something good?
- *This is an opportunity to be vulnerable with your group—but not for you to point out flaws in others. Graciously encourage & bear with each other.*

"My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. **2 CORINTHIANS 12:9** (NLT)

Prayer

As you close, take time to pray for each other.



Wawasee Bible is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. View our Statement of Faith online at wawaseebible.com/beliefs. Learn more about the EFCA at efca.org.

Wawasee Community Bible Church

2035 East 1300 North | Milford, Indiana 46542 | 574-658-9161 | wawaseebible.com

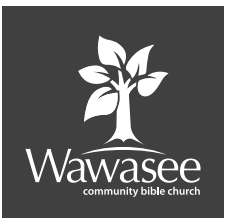
PURSuing PRESENCE

Sunday, February 23, 2025

PART 4

BARRENNESS To BLESSING

GENESIS 29:1-30:24



We're Glad You're Here Today!

Scan QR code for our App with Bulletin, Connect Card, & more.

<https://wawasee.today>