

GENESIS II

THE NEXT CHAPTERS OF GOD'S RELENTLESS PLAN

Part 10: One Tough Story

July 14–15, 2018

Todd King, Lead Vision Pastor

Notable Moments in Jacob's Life

He had deceptive tendencies, dreamt about a stairway to heaven, got tricked into marrying the wrong sister — and in all this, God was faithful.

Genesis 34

Now Dinah, the daughter Leah had borne to Jacob, went out to visit the women of the land. ² When Shechem son of Hamor the Hivite, the ruler of that area, saw her, he took her and raped her. ³ His heart was drawn to Dinah daughter of Jacob; he loved the young woman and spoke tenderly to her. ⁴ And Shechem said to his father Hamor, “Get me this girl as my wife.”

- Sex must be consensual
- Non-consensual sex is wrong, even if you're married
- Love does not look like rape

“This was the classic case of the ruling dictator wanting to subdue the weak, friendless Jew-girl.” – Rabbi Hirsch

⁵ When Jacob heard that his daughter Dinah had been defiled, his sons were in the fields with his livestock; so he did nothing about it until they came home. ⁶ Then Shechem's father Hamor went out to talk with Jacob. ⁷ Meanwhile, Jacob's sons had come in from the fields as soon as they heard what had happened. They were shocked and furious, because Shechem had done an outrageous thing in Israel by sleeping with Jacob's daughter—a thing that should not be done.

It's always a sin when a woman is treated as an object rather than a person.

⁸ But Hamor said to them, “My son Shechem has his heart set on your daughter. Please give her to him as his wife. ⁹ Intermarry with us; give us your daughters and take our daughters for yourselves. ¹⁰ You can settle among us; the land is open to you. Live in it, trade in it, and acquire property in it.

¹¹ Then Shechem said to Dinah's father and brothers, “Let me find favor in your eyes, and I will give you whatever you ask. ¹² Make the price for the bride and the gift I am to bring as great as you like, and I'll pay whatever you ask me. Only give me the young woman as my wife.”

¹³ Because their sister Dinah had been defiled, Jacob's sons replied deceitfully as they spoke to Shechem and his father Hamor.

Stress amplifies what is already present.

¹⁴ They said to them, “We can’t do such a thing; we can’t give our sister to a man who is not circumcised. That would be a disgrace to us. ¹⁵ We will enter into an agreement with you on one condition only: that you become like us by circumcising all your males. ¹⁶ Then we will give you our daughters and take your daughters for ourselves. We’ll settle among you and become one people with you. ¹⁷ But if you will not agree to be circumcised, we’ll take our sister and go”.

¹⁸ Their proposal seemed good to Hamor and his son Shechem. ¹⁹ The young man, who was the most honored of all his father’s family, lost no time in doing what they said, because he was delighted with Jacob’s daughter.

Genesis 34:24-31 – Murder & Justification

Two wrongs do not make a right

The Reality of Sexual Assault in America Today

- Every 98 seconds someone in the U.S. is sexually assaulted
- 80% of victims know the perpetrator
- In Whatcom County last year, DVSAS served over 1500 victims of domestic violence and over 400 rape victims

Next Steps

- 1) Victims can get support this weekend up front or next weekend in the Commons. DVSAS 24/7 Hotline: 877-715-1563
- 2) Join the fight against all forms of abuse, assault and trafficking. Meet our community partners who are addressing these topics next weekend in the Commons

Small Group Questions

- 1) Read Genesis 34.
- 2) The #metoo movement and #churchtoo movement has brought to light the injustice of those who have experienced sexual harassment and assault. What conversations have you had about these with family, friends, or coworkers?
- 3) Dinah’s brothers inflicted their own type of “justice.” We often would like to do the same when we hear about someone being sexually assaulted. Discuss why you think we feel that way?
- 4) What do you know about Engedi Refuge (www.engedirefuge.com), Whatcom Pregnancy clinic (www.whatcomclinic.com) or DVSAS (www.dvsas.org)? Look up these organizations and discover how you can join in and help. All three will have tables in the Commons this weekend, July 21/22.
- 5) How can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?