

MEETING AT THE WELL
Genesis 29:1-14

After Jacob awoke from his dream, he worshipped God, calling the place Bethel. Then he continued on his journey. After many days of travel, he came into the land of the people of the east. As he looked up he saw a well in the field. There were three different flocks of sheep lying around it waiting for water.

At this place all the flocks of the area gathered to be watered. The herders would roll the great stone away from the well's mouth to water the sheep, and then when they were through watering the sheep they would cover the mouth of the well with the stone again. In this way the water was kept clean, free from contamination of something that might fall into, or be thrown into the well.

Jacob said to the herders, "Brothers, where do you come from?"

They answered, "We are from Haran."

Jacob asked, "Do you know Laban, the son of Nahor?"

They answered, "Yes, we know him."

Jacob asked, "Is he well?"

They answered, "He is well. Look, here comes his daughter Rachel with the sheep."

Then Jacob asked them, "It is still the middle of the day, it is not the time of day when flocks should be gathered together. Why don't you water your sheep and then take them out to the pasture?"

The herders answered, "We cannot go until all the flocks are gathered together. Then the stone will be rolled away, so that we can water our sheep."

While they kept talking Rachel arrived with her father's sheep, for she took care of them.

When Jacob saw Rachel, the daughter of Laban his uncle, and the sheep that belonged to Laban, he went up to the well, and rolled away the stone from the mouth. Jacob watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother. Then Jacob kissed Rachel, and cried for joy at finding his relatives. Jacob told Rachel that he was her cousin, her aunt Rebekah's son.

Rachel ran to tell her father the news.

When Laban heard that Jacob the son of his sister Rebekah had come, he ran to meet him. Laban hugged Jacob, and kissed him. Then brought him to his home to meet the family. They had a wonderful time together, each telling the other about their families.

Laban said, "Surely you are my flesh and blood."

Jacob stayed there with Laban and his family for a month.

It must have been a long and lonely journey for Jacob. He could not go home because of Esau's hatred, and yet he had no way of knowing what his relatives would be like, or if he could even find them. Jacob had to put his trust in the Lord for protection from all the dangers along the way, and he had to trust the Lord for direction and guidance so that he could find his family. Because Rebekah had never gone home after her marriage to Isaac, and Jacob and Esau had never met any of their mother's family. What a wonderful reunion Jacob's meeting with Laban's family must have been.

God kept his promise to Jacob and watched over him all along the way. In the same way, God has promised to watch over each of those that love him. He knows the way that we go, and he will guide us every step. We must keep our trust in him and obey his commands and then we will be blessed as Jacob was.

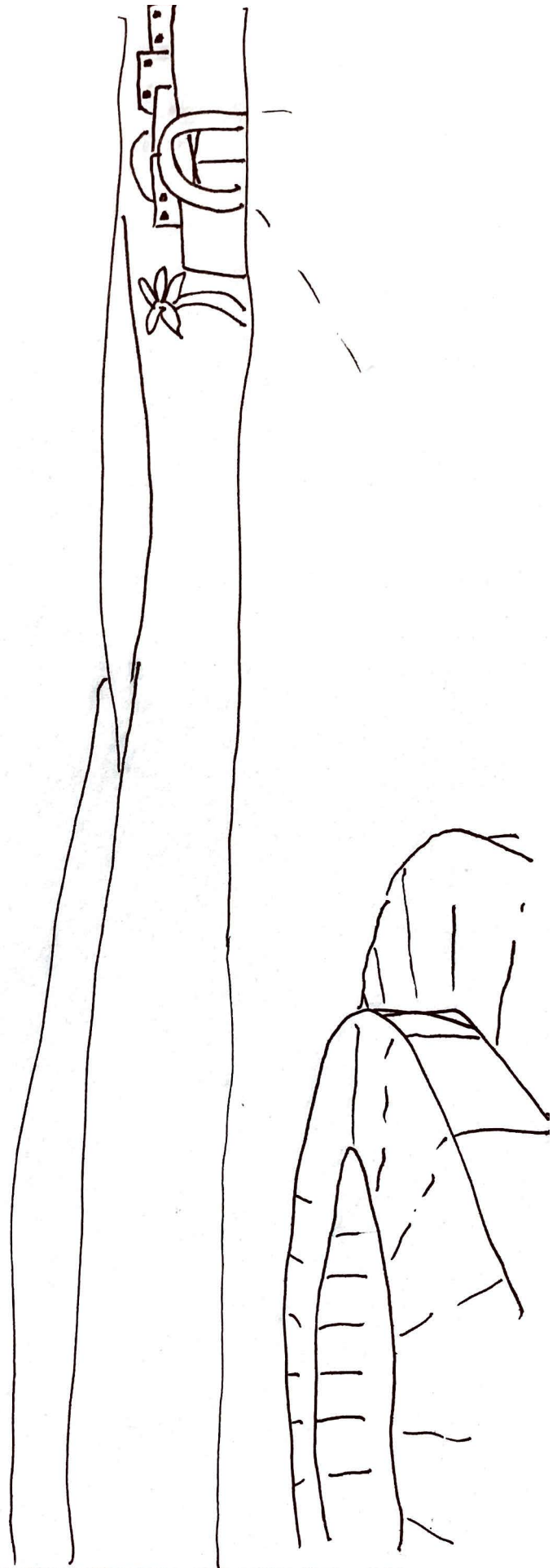
PRINCIPLE: Trust and obey God's word.

LEARN: For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death.

Psalm 48:14

For this ^{God} is our God for ever and ever:
he will be our guide even unto death.
Psalm 138:14





1. Color Jacob, Rachel & sheep & cut them out.
2. Color scene.
3. Paste characters on scene.
4. Paste cotton on sheep if you wish.

or.

1. Cut out characters & paste on scene.
2. Water color the whole picture.

