

## On the Run (Again)

As a child, did you ever consider running away from home? Explain.

Read Genesis 31:1-55.

1. Why did Jacob decide to leave Laban and return to Esau's land?
  - A. God told him to return.
  - B. He really didn't like Laban any longer.
  - C. Laban really didn't like Jacob any longer.
  - D. There was a famine in the land.
  - E. God had a promise to fulfill to the descendants of Abraham.
  - F. Jacob had obtained about all the wealth he needed.
  - G. Jacob felt homesick for Esau.
  - H. Esau really wanted to see Jacob.
  - I. Other.
  
2. What feedback did Jacob receive from Rachel and Leah?
  - A. There were split—one wanted to stay and the other wanted to leave.
  - B. Both wanted to stay with the extended family of their childhood.
  - C. Both wanted to leave.
  - D. They loved Jacob so much and were willing to go wherever he went.
  - E. They felt fearful about going to a place they had never been.
  - F. They worried about their children and who they might marry.
  - G. They wanted to consult the gods they had growing up.
  - H. Yahweh's promise to be with them gave them utmost confidence.
  - I. Other.
  
3. Why did Rachel steal her father's household gods?
  - A. This family lies, steals, and cheats all the time.
  - B. Rachel wanted a memento from home.
  - C. She wasn't "stealing;" she was "borrowing."
  - D. To build her father's faith in Yahweh instead of idols.
  - E. Rachel felt more at home with her father's gods than with Yahweh.
  - F. Jacob hadn't cultivated faith in Yahweh with his two wives.
  - G. So she could sell them and get some money if needed.
  - H. To pass on her father's gods to the next generation.
  - I. Other.

(over)

4. Why did Laban and Jacob need a “watchtower” (vs. 49)?
  - A. They couldn’t trust each other.
  - B. It provided a strategic spot for military advantages.
  - C. They needed a legal stamp to ratify their agreement.
  - D. This provided a good place to say “Goodbye.”
  - E. They were “Jehovah’s Witnesses” and this was their PR publication.
  - F. To have a physical marker to stay on their own side and not cross.
  - G. Other.
  
5. “May the LORD watch between me and thee; while we are absent one from another.” This is:
  - A. Called the “Mizpah” which means “watchtower.”
  - B. What you’re supposed to say when it’s time for a religious “Goodbye.”
  - C. I don’t know; I memorized it when I was young.
  - D. A promise to stay away from each other.
  - E. A promise to return.
  - F. A prayer to ask for God’s protection.
  - G. A request for God to take care of those outside our immediate care.
  - H. Other.
  
6. What oaths have you taken?
  - A. Be loyal to my family.
  - B. Always trust God.
  - C. Take care of myself.
  - D. I don’t take oaths.
  - E. Treat others the way they treat me.
  - F. I don’t swear.
  - G. To God and country.
  - H. Other.
  
7. Who do you feel more sorry for in this story: Jacob or Laban? Why?
  
  
8. If you were Jacob, would you rather face Laban or Esau? Explain.