

1/17/2021

# Creating My Happily Ever After

## I.-Happily Ever After...

- Overcame diversity...and they lived, Happily Ever After
- Met that person of their dreams...and they lived, Happily Ever After

## II. Bible Story Backstory

- 3 Patriarchs of the OT....Abraham, Isaac, Jacob (who becomes Israel)
- Isaac married Rebekah and had twins....Esau and Jacob

*"Isaac loved Esau...but Rebekah loved Jacob."*

*Genesis 25:28*

- Jacob sneakily tricks Esau out of his blessing and birthright. Esau plans to kill Jacob. Rebekah sends Jacob away to marry a cousin. Jacob has a chance to start a clean slate
- Rachel and Jacob..."love at first sight"...contracts to work for his uncle for seven years to marry Rachel

*"Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah had weak eyes, but Rachel had a lovely figure and was beautiful. Jacob was in love with Rachel and said, 'I'll work for you seven years in return for your younger daughter Rachel.'"*

*Genesis 29:16-17*

### *Sermon in a Sentence:*

*Marriage is important, but if we have **unrealistic expectations** of it, or **incorrectly prioritize** it, we're headed for disappointment or disaster.*

### *Christian's Top Priority:*

*"[Jesus] 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'*

*This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it:*

*'Love your neighbor as yourself...'"*

*Matthew 22:37-39 (NIV)*

## III. 3 Predictable Problems

(when we have unrealistic expectations/prioritize marriage -or any relationship – incorrectly)

1. We **compromise God's standards**.
  - Whenever we put a person, or goal, or anything other than God, in the place of Top Priority in our lives, it throws our whole life out of balance.
2. We **get demanding**.
  - Sometimes the expectations and demands are unspoken and under the surface but they are there.

*"There is a God-shaped vacuum in the heart of each man (person) which cannot be satisfied by any created thing but only by God the Creator, made known through Jesus Christ." Pascal*

3. We **end up disappointed**.

*"When the Lord saw that Leah was unloved, he enabled her to have children...she gave birth to a son. She named him Reuben, for she said, 'The Lord has noticed my misery, and now husband will love me.'"*

*Genesis 29:31-32*

*"Surely this time my husband will feel affection for me, since I have given him three sons." Genesis 29:34*