Introduction
Deep within the heart of every person is a longing to love and be loved. But like everything else in this world, that longing for love can be distorted or misplaced.

- Unrealistic Expectations
- Disillusionment

The problem is that we have made an idol out of love.
There is a longing for love that can only be satisfied by God himself.

I. Stop believing the lies we’ve been told about love.
Many of those lies begin in childhood and carry over into our adult life.

The story of Jacob – Genesis 25.

- Jacob had a twin brother, Esau.
- The Bible tells us that Isaac loved Esau and Rebekah loved Jacob. 25:28
- In time, Jacob, with the help of his mother, will steal Esau’s birthright and blessing.
- Esau plots to kill his brother after his father dies.
- Jacob flees to Rebekah’s brother, Laban. 28:1-2

Jacob is a young man looking for love.

II. Don’t expect others to do what only God can do. Genesis 29:15-30
When Jacob saw Rachel, he was immediately attracted to her.
He was willing to pay any price to have her.
Laban deceives Jacob. Instead of giving him Rachel, he gives his oldest daughter Leah.
Jacob must work another 7 years for Rachel.
Now you have three wounded people – Leah, Rachel and Jacob.
Rachel couldn’t meet all of Jacob’s needs. No one can. No one but God.
“We learn that through all of life, there runs a note of cosmic disappointment. You will never lead a wise life until you understand that….It means that no matter what we put out hopes in, in the morning, it is always Leah, never Rachel.” Tim Keller in Counterfeit Gods

“If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world.” C. S. Lewis in Mere Christianity

“What if my greatest disappointments,
Or the aching of this life,
Is the revealing of a greater thirst,
This world can’t satisfy.” Laura Story, Blessings

III. Only God can satisfy the deepest longing of our heart.

The breakthrough came for Leah when she began to call upon the Lord. 29:32

Jacob’s breakthrough came when he faced his fears and he wrestled with God. 32:22-32

- Jacob’s name would be changed to Israel.
- Jacob and Leah would have a son named Judah. Through his line the Messiah would come.

It is by grace. It is the way God always works.

Conclusion

What are the lies that you’ve been told about love?

How do they affect you?

Have you found the love and acceptance you were seeking in a relationship with Jesus Christ?

It is his love that sets us free to love others as he intends.

“The only way to dispossess the heart of an old affection (an idol) is by the expulsive power of a new one.” Thomas Chalmers