

# Apply The Word

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## Message Info

### Title:

The Lord's  
Commitment

### Speaker:

Peter Privitera

### Date:

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### Scriptures:

Genesis 29:1-30

**Theme:** Give thanks because the Lord who gives the vision stays through the long years.

**Introduction:** We have all been in a situation where our initial vision for an endeavor is exciting and motivational. The thrill of what we're pursuing encourages us and drives us to succeed. But then the grind sets in, and what was initially exciting becomes hard work and, often, drudgery. Worry and discouragement can arrive and we can even doubt if God is with us or for us. Jacob had just such an experience in Gen 29, and through it he learned how to trust the Lord and act in faith.

We find 2 aspects of the Lord's purposes in the grind through Jacob's story:

### 1. The vision high (1-14)

Jacob had been a schemer and deceiver, stealing the birthright and the paternal blessing from his brother, Esau.

Esau hated Jacob and wanted to kill him. In response, Jacob fled and the Lord met him with the vision of the ladder and angels descending.

Jacob next went toward his uncle Laban's home, and as he arrived it appeared that all of his plans and desires were being realized. He was welcome among his people and he met the woman of his dreams, Rebekah.

His story is quite similar to his father's, though there are small signs that his situation is not quite as good as Isaac's was.

### 2. The long low (15-30)

As Jacob made clear to Laban about his interest in Rebekah, it appeared that all might go well. He would work 7 years and receive his wife.

However, when the 7 years were completed, Laban pulled a fast one and swapped Leah for Rebekah in the bridal chamber. He swindled Jacob.

Jacob was outraged; but he was also receiving what he had sown. The deceiver had been deceived, and taken advantage of, by another swindler.

Jacob is then stuck working another 7 years for Rebekah, which he does. He ends up working 14 years to earn the wife of his dreams.

Through it all, the Lord works. Leah gives birth to Levi and Judah, cementing her role in the Lord's covenantal promises. Jacob experiences the Lord's faithfulness.

### Questions:

1. How aware are you of the Lord's work in your life right now?
2. Are there areas of your life that seem to be outside the Lord's concern?
3. Are there burdens you're carrying on your own? Goals you're striving for by yourself? How can you trust the Lord more day-by-day?