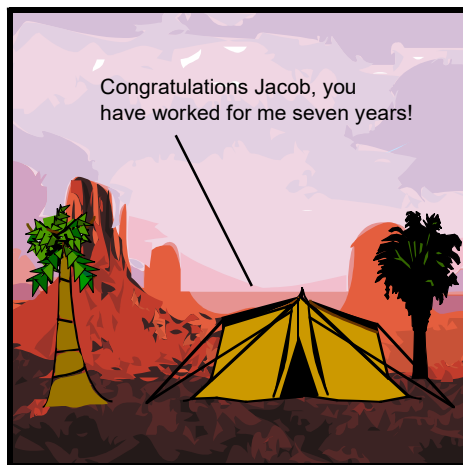


Jacob's Love for Rachel

Jacob was in love with Rachel and said, "I'll work for you seven years in return for your younger daughter Rachel."

Laban said, "It's better to give her to you than to some other man. Stay here with me." So Jacob served seven years to get Rachel, but they seemed like only a few days to him because of his love for her.

Genesis 29:18-20



Can you imagine how different our marriages would be if we all had to earn our partners in life? Jacob worked seven years, (actually 14 years), for the privilege of marrying Rachel. The time flew by.

Do you think there was any doubt that the marriage was going to last? From Jacob's perspective, he invested a good part of his life ensuring the marriage would take place. From Rachel's perspective, she could rest assured that Jacob's commitment to her was solid and not fleeting. Here's a new word. Good marriages are founded on Jacobian effort.