### Message Notes | Jacob Part 3: Stairway to Heaven

Genesis 28:10-22

$\rightarrow$ how to	move on when you're not ready to leave
→ difficul	t to leave but impossible to stay - <b>Gen 27:42-45</b>
→ betwee	en a rock and a high place - <b>Gen 28:10-15</b>
#1 Rememl	ber that God is very much
→ awesor	me house of God - <b>Gen 28:16-19</b>
#2	above all things.
→ Jacob's	s faith and Jacob's vow - <b>Gen 28:20-22</b>
•	cific promises of God and em (God's Yellow Pages)
→ the Sta	irway - <b>John 1:50-51</b>
_	n Jesus, Heaven is always ays

# **Group Questions | Jacob**

#### Part 3: Stairway to Heaven

Genesis 28:10-22

- 1. Share a time when you had to go through a transition where you had to move on but you weren't quite ready to leave.
- 2. The results can be ugly when a person refuses to move on even through it's time for them to do so. What are some examples of this that you've seen?
- 3. **Read Genesis 27:41-45.** Why was Jacob forced to move on, and what about his situation would have been especially difficult?
- 4. **Read Genesis 28:11-15.** What message did God want Jacob to receive through this dream?

How much of that message applies to you today?

- 5. You knowingly or unknowingly arrange your life around the things you fear. Give some examples of how this has been true of you.
- 6. We often don't think about the need to be "afraid" of God, but the scriptures highlight the importance of fearing him above all things. What does "fearing God" mean to you?
- 7. What are some transitions in your present or future that might be difficult to navigate?

What's a promise from God that will help you, and how can you make it portable?

## Message Notes | Jacob Part 3: Stairway to Heaven

Genesis 28:10-22

- → how to move on when you're not ready to leave
- → difficult to leave but impossible to stay **Gen 27:42-45**
- → between a rock and a high place Gen 28:10-15

#### #1 Remember that God is very much with you.

→ awesome house of God - Gen 28:16-19

#### #2 Fear God above all things.

- → Jacob's faith and Jacob's vow **Gen 28:20-22**
- #3 Pick specific promises of God and make them portable. (God's Yellow Pages)
  - → the Stairway John 1:50-51
- #4 Through Jesus, Heaven is always <u>available</u> and always <u>accessible</u>.

## **Bible Reading for Today**

#### Genesis 28:10-19

Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. <sup>11</sup> When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. <sup>12</sup> He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. <sup>13</sup> There above it stood the Lord, and he said: "I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. <sup>14</sup> Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. <sup>15</sup> I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

<sup>16</sup> When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it." <sup>17</sup> He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven."

<sup>18</sup> Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. <sup>19</sup> He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.