

Genesis: Real God

Part 2 Real People

Genesis 35:1–29

NOTES: *A New Name: Jacob's Blessing Returns*

- I. God Renews Jacob's Spiritual Life (Gen 35:1–4)
- II. God Sustains Jacob's Spiritual Life (Gen 35:5–8)
- III. God Confirms his Promise to Jacob (Gen 35:9–15)

Questions for Community Groups and Individual Bible Study

For Starters: What is something or someone you have had the opportunity to name? What did you name it and why?

The Basics: Read Genesis 35:1–29. What stands out to you in the passage? What are some key words or phrases? What is clear or confusing? Discuss.

Quick-Fire Round

1. Have you ever wanted to get closer to God but didn't really know where to start? What were some things you tried to grow in your faith during that time?
2. Read Genesis 28:18–22, What was significant about the place Bethel? Why did God call Jacob to go there? What are some examples or places where you experienced being really close to God? Where were you and what happened?
3. God told Jacob to dwell there, what do you think he meant by this? What are some ways that you have found that you enjoy dwelling with God? (in scripture, prayer, worship, etc.)
4. The purpose of dwelling with God is to be renewed spiritually as we spend this time with him. Read Philippians 1:6–7, 2:13, Ephesians 2:10, What role does God play in this process?
5. Read James 5:16, 1 John 1:9, and Acts 3:19, God told Jacob to get rid of false gods and sin in his house, why is this important to Jacob's spiritual growth? Can you think of anything in your life that is hurting or slowing your spiritual growth that you may need to change or get rid of?
6. In what ways have you experienced God sustain you in the same way he sustained Jacob? In what ways did God keep his promises to Jacob and also to you? How does this help build your faith for the future?

Community Group Prayer and Action: Take time as a group to quietly reflect on the following and then share with each other as led. Consider how you can encourage, pray for and support one another to live out the things that have been impressed upon your hearts through God's word. How could you begin this journey or spiritual renewal just as Jacob did?

A Closing Prayer: God we love and trust you. We are blown away at your pursuit of us in relationship. We are humbled to be called your people. We all have some sort of past, but God you want to use us for great things now and in the future and for that we are extremely thankful. God may we be found faithfully following you and worshipping you in every circumstance. Help us to experience your promise of spiritual renewal as we walk with you in relationship. Amen