

April 22nd, 2018 Message Discussion Questions

Jacob Part 2 – Genesis 35.1-15

On Sunday we picked back up in our series in the life of Jacob in Genesis 35. The main question we tried to answer together was HOW MESSY PEOPLE (like Jacob), CAN GET CLOSER TO GOD.

As a group read Genesis 35.1-15 (either for the first time or as a refresher).

1. Sometimes with narratives, its helpful to summarize the different parts of the story as they play out.

- as a group, determine what happens in different chunks throughout these first 15 verses and give each section a title.

2. Do you see any helpful lessons for us in terms of the order of events that play out with God dealing with Jacob? How he might deal with us today?

3. Two times in this passage the text refers to Bethel as the place where God first met Jacob “when he was fleeing from his brother.”

- Why is it mentioned that way?

- How is Jacob different NOW, than what he was when God did meet him at Bethel back in chapter 28?

4. The differences in Jacobs life would certainly have brought God’s faithfulness in his life to mind as he looked back on the time between both his times at Bethel.

- As a group spend some time recounting the faithfulness of God either in your own lives, or your life as a group.

5. Last, focus on what God says to Jacob in vv9-13.

- what are the 2 major messages God wants Jacob to understand?

6. Neither of these 2 things God tells Jacob are new (he already named him Israel in chapter 32, and he already had the promises of being fruitful and having nations come through him from Abraham, Isaac, and personally in chapter 28).

- Why are reminders in our spiritual walks so important?

- Why do you think its so important to be reminded of the two things God reminds Jacob of here? (identity, and mission)

- Talk as a group to remind one another before you go:

- What is our identity?

- What is our mission?

- What will you do this week in obedience to those reminders?

7. Pray for one another before you go!