

Sermon Questions for Life Groups

Jacob Meets Jesus – Gen. 28:10-22

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Sunday, May 31, 2015

*These questions are generated by several authors for Life Group discussions
or family or personal devotions*

1. Have you ever been in a situation, like Jacob, where the only response you could feel was fear and flight?
2. How did the word picture that Pastor John painted of Jacob's stairway to heaven strike you?
3. Is there a 'sacred place(s)' where you have had a special meeting(s) with God?
4. Jacob was fleeing from Esau, and ran straight into the arms of God, who extended unwarranted grace to him. Why would Jacob then put conditions on his relationship with God as noted in vs. 20.
5. Have you, like Jacob, bargained with God in your commitment to Him? How did it work out for you?
6. In the story of Jacob's ladder, we see that Jacob meets God while fleeing from his problems. How is the story of Jonah similar to this encounter in the agreements made by both sides? How is this story different? Why do you think God speaks to his servants through difficulties?
7. Saul of Tarsus was one other famous example of a man on a journey, who unexpectedly encountered Christ. Read the story of this encounter now in Acts 9:1-19 and discuss the following:

- a. Like Jacob, God stripped Saul of something before presenting himself to him. What was taken away from each character and why did God take this away before speaking to them?
- b. C.S. Lewis said that “Pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our consciences, but shouts in our pains. It is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world.” How do all 3 stories discussed here demonstrate that this famous quote is true? Explain your reasoning.

8. Can you claim the promise of verse 15?