

RECAP: What if God still speaks hope into broken places? What if the dream you buried wasn't dead—just waiting? Explore how God speaks through dreams and visions to awaken hope, restore what's been lost, and invite His people to build a better future together.

MAIN POINTS

- Faith is not climbing up to God, but realizing Heaven has come down to us. Unlike the Tower of Babel where humans tried to force their way up to God, Jacob's dream at Bethel shows God opening heaven down to earth. God's presence is not earned by our performance or striving; He meets us right where we are.
- God gives us a Place, a People, a Purpose, and a Promise. God expanded Jacob's perspective from a single stone to an eternal legacy. Underneath all places, people, and purposes is God's ultimate promise: "I am with you, and I will protect you wherever you go."
- We don't give or serve to earn God's favor, but in response to His grace. When Jacob woke up, he marked the stone with oil, worshipped, and pledged a tenth back to God. Generosity and obedience are not deals we make to get God to move; they are joyful responses because Heaven has already come near to us in Jesus.

GETTING STARTED

- Jacob ended up at "a certain place"—an ordinary field where he used a stone as a pillow—in the middle of a messy and uncertain season. Have you ever experienced a season where life felt disrupted or out of control, yet looking back, you realized God was at work in that ordinary moment?

SCRIPTURE

- [Genesis 28:10-22; Psalm 126:1-3; John 1:51](#)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Read Genesis 28:16. Jacob exclaims, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I wasn't even aware of it!" Why is it so easy to miss God's presence when we are focused on our anxieties, past mistakes, or uncertain futures?
- How does the realization that Jesus is the true "stairway" connecting heaven and earth (John 1:51) change the way we view our daily lives, work, and struggles?
- The sermon highlights four things God gave Jacob: a Place, a People, a Purpose, and a Promise. Which of these four do you need to be reminded of most in your current season, and why?

APPLICATION

- Recognize God in your current season: Identify a situation in your life right now that feels ordinary, chaotic, or uncomfortable. Pause each morning this week to pray: "Lord, help me see how You are present in this place today."
- Rest in His sovereignty: If you have been striving to control outcomes or carry the weight of your future, remember that "God's sovereignty is the pillow upon which the Christian rests." Practice surrendering your need to figure everything out and rest in His promise that He is with you.
- Identify your next step on the Giving Pathway: Reflect on where you currently stand in your generosity journey—whether taking a step to Trust (begin giving), Train (become consistent), Tithe (give 10%), or Trailblaze (give sacrificially). Ask God honestly: "What are You asking me to trust You with?"