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# FAMILY DEVOTIONS

A weekly study to strengthen families



## The House of God

BY PASTOR JONES

*And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!"* GENESIS 28:17 NKJV

Our text is taken from a familiar story in Genesis 28. Jacob has been driven from his home and familiar place of worship. He has been cast out of his normal routine and life as he knew it. I am sure he missed his family, felt isolated, and had many questions and doubts. Perhaps he thought, "Lord are you still with me in this place? Will you help me and provide for me?"

That night, when he went to sleep, the Lord gave him a beautiful dream. He saw the heavens open and a ladder connecting heaven and earth. He saw the Lord at the top of the ladder and angels descending and ascending. He heard the voice of God and felt the presence of God. The vision is both terrifying and amazing. Jacob declares this is the "house of God."



## Application

Perhaps we can relate to Jacob in our current crisis. We, too, have been driven from our familiar place of worship and church family. Perhaps you feel isolated and fearful. However, this was not the end for Jacob; this was just the beginning of a fresh revelation of God. This was the beginning of a breakthrough for Jacob. In the same manner, this is an opportunity for us to grow and know the Lord.

## Discussion

1. Is the church just a location or is it something more?
2. What was it in Jacob that God responded to?
3. What does the ladder signify? What about the Lord at the top of the ladder?
4. In the New Testament, for what does the Lord say the church should be known?
5. Who is the church?

## Prayer Focus

Pray that we receive a vision of what the true church is.

Pray that, like Jacob, people receive a hunger for God like that opens the heavens and brings the presence of God.

Pray that the body of Christ receives a fresh revelation that they are the church and that the Lord desires to manifest His presence through them to a lost world.