

YOU CAN'T OUTFRAN GOD

Pastor Jackie Creek
November 30, 2025



Text: Genesis 28:10-22

Big Idea: Even when our choices lead to brokenness, God's presence finds us, transforms us, and calls us back into His purpose.

Genesis 28:10-11 NIV

Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep.

Genesis 28:1-4 NIV

So Isaac called for Jacob and blessed him. Then he commanded him: "Do not marry a Canaanite woman. Go at once to Paddan Aram, to the house of your mother's father Bethuel. Take a wife for yourself there, from among the daughters of Laban, your mother's brother. May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and increase your numbers until you become a community of peoples. May he give you and your descendants the blessing given to Abraham, so that you may take possession of the land where you now reside as a foreigner, the land God gave to Abraham."

Genesis 28:12-15 NIV

He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. There above it stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

1. Our lowest places often become God's meeting places.

God tells Jacob:

- "I am the Lord..."
- "I will give you..."
- "I am with you..."
- "I will watch over you..."
- "I will not leave you..."

Exodus 3:11-12 NIV

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain."

Genesis 28:16-17 NIV

When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it." He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven."

Omnipresent: He is present in all places, at all times.

Psalms 139:7-10 NIV

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

Immanent: He dwells with His creation; He is accessible.

Isaiah 46:4 NIV

Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

2. Don't sleep through God's presence.

A.W. Tozer - *The Pursuit of God*

The Presence and the manifestation of the Presence are not the same. God is here when we are wholly unaware of it. He is manifest only when and as we are aware of His presence. On our part, there must be a surrender to the Spirit of God, for His work is to show us the Father and the Son. If we cooperate with Him in loving obedience, God will manifest Himself to us, and that manifestation will be the difference between a nominal Christian life and a life radiant with the light of His face.

Genesis 28:18-19 NIV

Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.

3. Encountering God reshapes your purpose.

Genesis 28:20-22 NIV

Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear so that I return safely to my father's household, then the LORD will be my God and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth."

John 1:51 NIV

"Very truly I tell you, you will see 'heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on' the Son of Man."

Genesis 3:9 NIV

the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

Closing Question:

» **WHERE ARE YOU?**