

# Missing the Who

January 24, 2026

***“Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it.” Genesis 28:16***

Too often much of our energy gets spent asking why. Why did this end? Why hasn't this started yet? Why am I still waiting, still wrestling, still unsure? In becoming preoccupied with the why, I was missing the who.

Jacob had a moment like this in Genesis 28. He wasn't in a temple. He wasn't in a place he expected God to show up. He was exhausted and uncertain about his future, yet after encountering God, he woke up and said, ***“Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it.” Genesis 28:16*** This scripture is painfully relatable to so many.

How often is God present while we're distracted by scrolling, overthinking, or trying to figure everything out before we trust Him? We assume God will meet us once the questions are answered or life feels more stable. But God doesn't wait for clarity, He meets us in the middle of confusion. God's voice reminds us: “My presence is always with you.” Not after you fix things or understand everything, or you become more spiritual. ALWAYS never ends.

We live in a culture that's obsessed with finding their purpose, but many want the path before they take the step. But Scripture flips the order. ***Psalm 16:11*** says, ***“You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”***

NOTE: The path flows from His presence, not the other way around.

Joy isn't found in finally knowing what's next. Joy is found in recognizing who is already with you right now. You see direction is a fruit of relationship, not a replacement for it because God doesn't just give instructions; He gives Himself.

When we obsess over the why, we often miss the invitation to intimacy. Your unanswered questions may remain for a season, but God's nearness never does. He is just as present in the waiting as He is in the breakthrough.

Maybe today isn't about figuring everything out. Maybe it's about waking up to the reality that God is already here.

Ps. Tracy