

Jacob

I Found God In An Unlikely Place

June 10, 2018 / Jeff Gunn

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. ¹¹ 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 28:10-11, NIV**

²⁹ ...since they hated knowledge and did not choose to fear the Lord. ³⁰ Since they would not accept my advice and spurned my rebuke, ³¹ they will eat the fruit of their ways and be filled with the fruit of their schemes. ³² For the waywardness of the simple will kill them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them. **Proverbs 1:29-32, NIV**

When we pursue selfish desires using deceit and one-upmanship, we end up _____ ourselves.

¹² 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. ¹³ There above it stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. **Genesis 28:12-13a, NIV**

⁴⁹ Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel." ⁵⁰ Jesus said, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that." ⁵¹ He then added, "Very truly I tell you, you will see 'heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on' the Son of Man." **John 1:49-51, NIV**

¹⁸ No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known. **John 1:18, NIV**

In an unlikely and unexpected way, God showed Jacob a _____ into heaven. _____ does the same for us.

I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. ¹⁴ 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. ¹⁵ 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."
¹⁶ When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it." ¹⁷ 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." **Genesis 28:13b-17, NIV**

God is a _____ and a _____. His love is faithful. He _____ us, so we can be a _____ to others.

¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz. ²⁰ 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 ²¹ so that I return safely to my father's household, then the LORD will be my God ²² 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." **Genesis 28:18-22, NIV**

³³ But whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm." **Proverbs 1:33, NIV**

God _____ Jacob everything by grace that he had tried to _____ by deceit. In response, Jacob _____.

MEMORY VERSE

³³ But whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm." **Proverbs 1:33, NIV**

My next step: I will ask myself: Am I ready to listen to God? Do I believe that he is a giver and a guardian, who is faithful?

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.