

The Journey Home
Genesis 35:1-15

Neil Trainer
June 9, 2019



NOTES

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Genesis 35:1-15

**Suggested Questions for Individual
Study or Group Discussion***



- In what place have you felt especially close to God? What was it about this location and/or this time in your life that helped you sense God's presence?
- Read *Genesis 35:1-15*. Why was Bethel a significant place for Jacob (cf. Gen. 28:10-22)? What do you imagine he is feeling as he returns?
- Why does the LORD direct Jacob back to Bethel? What must Jacob and his household do before making the journey? Why would this be important?
- What promises does the LORD make to Jacob at Bethel? How does Jacob respond?
- "Bethel" means "house of God." For those who are in Christ, where do we find our Bethel today (cf. 1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19; Eph. 2:22; 1 Pe. 2:5)? How should this reality shape the way in which we live each day?
- If you were in Jacob's household, what would you need to get rid of and change in order to purify yourself (35:2, 4; cf. Col. 3:5-10)? What is something you need to bury? How will you do this?
- About what can you say with Jacob, God "answered me in the day of my distress and . . . has been with me wherever I have gone" (35:3)? How can you mark this with your own "altar" and express your gratitude? How can your small group or others pray for you and support you in this?

For Family Discussion: What are some places where we regularly talk to God (e.g., the dining room, our bedroom, the church sanctuary)? Do you feel closest to God in these places or somewhere else? If you could give a special name for a place you spend time with God, what would it be? Pray and give thanks that God is with you wherever you go.

*Select or adapt questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.

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