

# PREPARING YOUR LIFE

Genesis 28:10-22  
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## INTRO

1. The original meaning of goodbye
2. The current reality of goodbye

### A. AN UNKNOWN FUTURE

1. An uncertain direction (v. 27:44, 28:3-4, 10-11a)
2. An unfavorable condition (v. 11b)
3. An unknown provision (v. 11c)

### B. AN UNEXPECTED RESOURCES

1. God is in action (v. 12)
2. God is close by (v. 13a)
3. God shows up (v. 13b)

### C. AN UNTHINKABLE COMMITMENT

1. God promises (v. 13-15)
2. God transforms (v. 11, 16-19)
3. God is faithful (v. 20-22)

## CONCLUSION

Our redirection becomes a path for God's preparation for our lives toward a greater purpose. Although where we are now may be a place of unfamiliar place, uncertain direction, and unknown future, this is the perfect place for God to transform it from a milestone of pain, suffering, shame, failure, and defeat to a milestone of God's nearness, faithfulness and promise to us.

## TABLETALK QUESTIONS

1. What are some significant milestone “goodbyes” that you have experienced? What gave you hope? Or caused you to fear as you moved forward into an unknown future?
2. Jacob goes into exile with only a “word in his pocket.” Read Genesis 28:3-4. What is the content of that “word”? How would this sustain Jacob? What word(s) does Christ put in your pocket?
3. Discuss the variety of exiles that we experience. What was God doing with Jacob in his exile? What is the Lord doing on your own? What central truth is he teaching us during trial and testing?
4. Read Genesis 28:10-22. What are some of the specific promises that God speaks to Jacob? How do these align with some of the same promises spoken to Abraham and Isaac? Why is it necessary for us to hear, over and over, the promises of God?
5. Focus your reading on Genesis 28:12-13. What is the significance of where God is positioned in “Jacob’s Ladder”? Why is it necessary for us to take note of the “ascending and descending” direction of the angels? From this dream, what can we learn about God’s character?
6. Read again Genesis 28:18-22. In what way Jacob responded to this encounter with God? How does this passage teach us about gratitude and thanksgiving to God?
7. As you conclude the Life Group meeting, share your major milestone in 2023 that signifies your own “certain place” becoming “this place”.