

SERMON: A Vision of Blessing
SCRIPTURE: Genesis 28

SERIES: Jacob: Seeking True Blessings
SPEAKER: Pastor Brady
October 13, 2019

THE GOAL: The primary goal of a small group at Grace is to develop a Christian community where Jesus is experienced through the gospel.

ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS: Use these questions to explore how God is at work in our families, communities, workplaces, and church.

1. Where have you seen God at work in your life this week?
2. What temptations have you been facing this week? How is God delivering you?
3. How have you experienced God's grace this week?
4. In what ways are you growing in your love for God?
5. In what ways are you growing in your love for others?
6. Have you started or stopped something this week just because you love Jesus?

REVIEW: Use these questions to better understand and apply the passage/sermon.

Observation: as a group talk through and summarize the passage. Think through Who, What, Where, When, How, Why questions together.

Interpretation: answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?
2. What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?
3. What does this passage teach us about salvation/grace?
4. How does this passage point to Christ?

Application: answer these questions together:

1. How does this passage convict you? Encourage you? Inspire you?
2. What specific truth do you see about God (his grace? love? holiness?) and how would your life be different if you really believed it?
3. By God's grace, what commitments do you need to make this week? Or, what do you need to start obeying/believing?

GO DEEPER: Use these questions to go deeper into the passage, minds, and hearts.

1. What does Jacob's vision in Genesis 28 teach us about how God saves us? How does it encourage you today?
2. Which of these promises from God to Jacob stands out to you? A) I am with you, B) I will keep you, C) I will bring you back to this land, C) I will never leave you. Talk through together how these promises find their fulfillment in Jesus Christ. Read Ephesians 2:19-22. How do God's promises find their fulfillment in the church?
3. The journey of faith is a process. In which of these areas have you seen God growing you lately? Can you share an example? How can your vision of God's grace in the cross help you grow in these areas?
 - a. From seeking man's blessing to seeking God's blessing in Christ.
 - b. From fearing man to fearing God.
 - c. From bargaining with God to fearing God.
 - d. From living for self to living for something bigger than yourself.
 - e. From trial avoidance to sanctifying suffering.

Pray: Praise God for his glorious and gracious salvation. Confess anything from #3 above that stands out to you. Ask God to help you to regain a vision of his promises in Christ and the church (#2).