

## Stairway to Heaven

May 22, 2011  
Genesis 28:10-22

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)  
Pastor Mark W. Turner

### Background

Jacob has lied & blasphemed  
Brother seeks to kill him  
Effectively banished from Promised Land (like Adam, like his descendants)

### The Stage

In the promised land but on the way out, just where he stopped  
Uses stone at his head as protection (his only protection – he thinks)

### The Dream

Staircase from heaven to earth  
• what ziggurats of Ur and tower of Babel sought to be  
Connection between heaven and earth

### God's Grace Given

What do we expect God to say to this rascal Jacob?  
Lord does not rebuke or curse! He BLESSES! Pure Grace!  
Repeats & expands Abraham & Issac's Blessings to Jacob  
Promise: "I will go with you wherever..."  
God's grace is bigger than our sin! Rom 6:1ff

### Jacob's Response

Jacob learns:  
• a new way of relating to God 16,17  
• a new way of understanding promises of God  
Jacob worships:  
• Sets up pillar and worships 22  
• Renames Luz (separation) to Bethel (house of God)  
• Makes a vow (If=since)  
• Commits to tithe out of faith

### The Passage in Light of Christ:

John 1:51 – Jesus is the stairway which connects earth to heaven  
App: 1) God comes at your point of need  
2) God always begins with grace (we sure can't be worthy)  
3) When God acts, we must respond to His Grace!  
Ask: What would Jacob's vow look like in my life?  
Have I responded and am I responding faithfully to God's gracious  
Covenant promises or do I act like 'of course I deserve them'?

## Stairway to Heaven

May 22, 2011  
Genesis 28:10-22

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)  
Pastor Mark W. Turner

### Background

Jacob has lied & blasphemed  
Brother seeks to kill him  
Effectively banished from Promised Land (like Adam, like his descendants)

### The Stage

In the promised land but on the way out, just where he stopped  
Uses stone at his head as protection (his only protection – he thinks)

### The Dream

Staircase from heaven to earth  
• what ziggurats of Ur and tower of Babel sought to be  
Connection between heaven and earth

### God's Grace Given

What do we expect God to say to this rascal Jacob?  
Lord does not rebuke or curse! He BLESSES! Pure Grace!  
Repeats & expands Abraham & Issac's Blessings to Jacob  
Promise: "I will go with you wherever..."  
God's grace is bigger than our sin! Rom 6:1ff

### Jacob's Response

Jacob learns:  
• a new way of relating to God 16,17  
• a new way of understanding promises of God  
Jacob worships:  
• Sets up pillar and worships 22  
• Renames Luz (separation) to Bethel (house of God)  
• Makes a vow (If=since)  
• Commits to tithe out of faith

### The Passage in Light of Christ:

John 1:51 – Jesus is the stairway which connects earth to heaven  
App: 1) God comes at your point of need  
2) God always begins with grace (we sure can't be worthy)  
3) When God acts, we must respond to His Grace!  
Ask: What would Jacob's vow look like in my life?  
Have I responded and am I responding faithfully to God's gracious  
Covenant promises or do I act like 'of course I deserve them'?