



## **FACING THE FUTURE!**

Genesis 28:11, 16

11 So he came to a certain place and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. And he took one of the stones of that place and put it at his head, and he lay down in that place to sleep.

16 Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it.”

Statement Question:

We become products of our environment.

Is our environment producing God’s purpose in our lives?

FINDING HOPE FOR YOUR FUTURE FROM A DIFFICULT PLACE:

1. If you want something to come \_\_\_\_\_, you need to \_\_\_\_\_ something \_\_\_\_\_.

Genesis 28:12

Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

Philippians 4:6-7

Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. 7 Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

FINDING HOPE FOR YOUR FUTURE FROM A DIFFICULT PLACE:

2. In his difficult place, he \_\_\_\_\_ was still with him.

Genesis 28:13-15

13 And behold, the Lord stood above it and said: "I am the Lord God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants. 14 Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed. 15 Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you."

FINDING HOPE FOR YOUR FUTURE FROM A DIFFICULT PLACE:

3. He found that his difficult place was actually a \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

Genesis 28:16-17

16 Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it." 17 And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!"

Psalms 9:9-10

9 The Lord also will be a refuge for the oppressed, A refuge in times of trouble. 10 And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; For You, Lord, have not forsaken those who seek You.

WHAT ACTION DO WE NEED TO TAKE?

1. Make your \_\_\_\_\_ a pillar.

Genesis 28:18a

Then Jacob rose early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put at his head, set it up as a pillar...

Don't let the problem \_\_\_\_\_ you, let it \_\_\_\_\_ you.

WHAT ACTION DO WE NEED TO TAKE?

2. \_\_\_\_\_ the difficult place.

Genesis 28:18b

... and poured oil on top of it.

Consecration changes the \_\_\_\_\_.

WHAT ACTION DO WE NEED TO TAKE?

3. Start \_\_\_\_\_ your difficult place a \_\_\_\_\_ place—turn it into a place of \_\_\_\_\_!

Genesis 28:19

And he called the name of that place Bethel; but the name of that city had been Luz previously.

From Luz = twisted, separated.

To Bethel = House of God – dwelling place.

Conclusion:

God is the \_\_\_\_\_ of our \_\_\_\_\_ for our \_\_\_\_\_!

Reflection:

1. Are you taking any action in your hard place, your difficult place?

2. Is the action you are taking pleasing to the Lord?

3. Does it line up with God's Word?