



LIVING AN UNFOCUSED LIFE



Jacob

**He was about as self centered as they come
We have already observed how he clutched
at life from the moment he was born**

**He took advantage of his brother
by conning him out of his birth right**

He took advantage of his father by out right lying to him

Now Jacob is paying for his choices

He finds himself on the run for his life



When God Shows Up

(Genesis 28:10-22)



Are We there Yet?

Moving from Beersheba to Haran (500 miles)

**This journey would keep him away
from his family for almost 20 years**

**14 of those years would be spent working
to get his love and her sister**

Doing the math 20 minus 14 leaves us with 6

**Dividing that in half (to and from) we can assume
Jacob would spend 3 years by himself**



The Middle of No Where (Bethel)

Bethel would have been about 3 or 4 days into the journey

Jacob had a long way to go

**However, its also been long enough for home to be gone
(Remember Jacob was sort of a homebody)**

Jacob had nobody but himself

Jacob has nothing but himself

**Sometimes for God to show up,
He has to wait until you are alone**



The Dream

(Genesis 28:12-15)



God Opens Up Heaven

Jacob got a picture of angels coming and going to show how God is currently interacting on earth

God Identifies himself in a way Jacob would know.

I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac



God Speaks His Promises to Jacob

**I will give you and your descendants
the land on which you are lying**

**Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth,
and you will spread out to the west and to the east,
to the north and to the south**

**All peoples on earth will be blessed through you
and your offspring (Messiah)**



God Speaks His Promises to Jacob

**I am with you and will watch over
you wherever you go**

I will bring you back to this land

**I will not leave you until I have done
what I have promised you.**



The Selfie Response

(Genesis 28:20-22)



The Selfie Response

If God -- Conditions

**Will be with me and will watch over me
on this journey I am taking**

**Will give me food to eat and clothes to wear
so that I return safely to my father's household**

**Then the Lord will be my God and this stone that
I have set up as a pillar will be God's house**

Of all that you give me I will give you a tenth



Selfie Centered Christian Faith?

God offered us His spirit and we want an experience

God offered us Himself and we settle for stuff

God offered us His eternity and we desire time

God gave us everthing and we return little



Back to Nowhere

(Genesis 35:1-14)



**How do you get to
Nowhere?**

