

## **Bible Summary -Genesis 35**

### Re-Fired

Jacob's up and down walk with God gets renewed in Chapter 35 after one of the darkest chapters in his life. His faith is re-fired and we see five practical clues to re-igniting our own up and down faith. First, God speaks His Word to Jacob. Reading God's Word is the kindling to a red-hot faith. Secondly, God gives Jacob a plan of three steps – move to Bethel, dwell there, and build an altar. We need to have a plan for faith. Edgewater has a 4 step plan the begins with corporate worship, moves to community groups, and includes both celebration and mission. Thirdly, removing junk like idols and earrings. As believers, we need to be vigilant to evaluate our lives for both sin and weights that quench the fire. Fourthly, is the intangible of fire. We need God to put the El back into Beth-El. We are to be those who desire and seek the filling of the Holy Spirit. Fifthly, to know our identity in Christ. Jacob was reminded he was no longer Jacob the heel snatcher but now he was Israel the prevailer.

Scriptures: Genesis 35:1-10; Hebrews 4:12; John 15:3; Psalm 119:11; 1 Corinthians 9:25-27; Hebrews 10:24; Hebrews 12:1-2; Romans 4:19-20; Zechariah 4:6; Romans 10:9; Romans 12:1-2; Genesis 1:26; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 Peter 2:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 1 Timothy 1:7; Romans 8:37; Matthew 5:16; Colossians 3:1-3; Psalm 1:1-3

## **Bible Questions and Application**

(These are here as an aid in facilitating conversation.

There is no obligation to run through **every** question listed.)

1. It was mentioned that reading God's Word is the #1 predictor of "prevailing faith." Are you reading God's Word?
  - a. If not, how can we encourage each other to read God's Word daily?
2. Do you have a plan for your faith?
3. God told Jacob to go Bethel but he stopped short. What makes you stop short of what God has called you to?
4. What does it mean to confess Jesus as our Lord (as opposed to Savior) and how would this change the way we live our lives? (Romans 10:9)
5. The Lord called Jacob to Bethel. Because Jacob saw God as the Lord, he cleansed his home of idols and weights so that he could execute the plan God gave him. God did not specifically ask Jacob to cleanse his home of idols, but Jacob did it out of his own desire to honor God. What are some "weights" or recurring sins you need to lay aside in order to make space for God?
6. A fire without a fire is just a stack of sticks. The Christian life without the Spirit is fake and empty. Is your walk with God "filled" with the Holy Spirit?
  - a. If not, what step or steps might you take to move that direction?
  - b. How can we then do what He asks no matter how dangerous or inconvenient?