

THE STRUGGLE BEHIND EVERY DREAM

Time to Dream/Open Doors Campaign - Part 3

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February 29 - March 1, 2020

THE DREAM

*“When Jacob reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. He found a smooth stone for a pillow and laid down to sleep. Then **GOD GAVE HIM A DREAM** in which he saw a stairway going from earth to heaven, and angels of God were going up and down the stairs! At the top of the stairway was God who said, ‘I am the same Lord of Abraham your grandfather and Isaac your father, and I am going to give you and your descendants all the land on which you’re sleeping . . . and your descendants will spread all around the world, and all the peoples on earth are going to be blessed by your future generations . . . I’m going to be with you, and I’m going to watch over you wherever you go. But one day I will bring your people back to this land . . . When Jacob woke up he thought ‘Surely, the Lord is in this place and I was not even aware of it!’ Then he was afraid and said ‘This place is awesome! It’s the house of God – the gateway to heaven!’ So early the next morning, Jacob got up and took the stone he’d used for a pillow and stood it upright as a memorial marker. Then he anointed the stone with oil and named the place Bethel, which means House of God . . . Then Jacob made this vow to God, ‘If you’ll be with me, I will honor you with my life and I will give back to you a tenth of all that you give to me.’”*
Genesis 28:11-22

THE STRUGGLE: 4 PHASES GOD TAKES US THROUGH TO GET US READY FOR HIS DREAM!

Genesis 32

1. THE CRISIS PHASE:

*“That night Jacob sent his family across the Jabbok river. Then Jacob was left all alone in the camp, and a man came and **WRESTLED** with Jacob **all night**.”*
Genesis 32:22-25 (NLT)

*“Before Jacob was born, he **STRUGGLED** with his brother; when he became a man, **he even FOUGHT WITH GOD**.”* Hosea 12:3 (NLT)

2. THE COMMITMENT PHASE:

*“Jacob **WRESTLED** with this Man until dawn. When the man saw that **he couldn’t win the match**, he struck Jacob’s hip and knocked it out of joint at the socket. Then the man said, ‘Let me go, for it is dawn!’ But Jacob panted, ‘**I won’t let you go unless you bless me!**’”*
Genesis 32:24b-26

*“Let us not become weary in doing good, **for at the proper time** we will reap a harvest **if we do not give up**.”* Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

3. THE CONFESSION PHASE:

*“The man asked him, ‘What is your name?’ ‘My name is **JACOB**,’ he answered.”*
Genesis 32:27 (NIV)

Jacob = original: “deceiver/manipulator”

4. THE CONVERSION PHASE:

*“Then the Man said, ‘Your name will no longer be Jacob. Instead you will be called **ISRAEL** . . . Then God **blessed** him there. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, ‘It is because I saw God face to face . . .’”*
Genesis 32:28-30 (NIV)

Israel = “Prince with God”

*“The sun rose as Jacob left Peniel, and he was **limping** because of his hip.”*
Genesis 32:31 (NLT)

*“If anyone belongs to Christ, they are a **new creation**. The old things have gone; **everything is made new!**”* 2 Cor. 5:17 (NCV)

HOMEWORK FOR THIS WEEK: TIME TO DREAM

1. Read the devotional in OPEN DOORS for March 1-7
2. In your Small Group watch & discuss video lesson 3
The 3rd Open Door: The Door To Greatness
3. Pray for everyone else participating in our church family
4. Memorize 2 Corinthians 5:17
“If anyone belongs to Christ, they are a new creation!”