



“Back to Bethel: Grace After Grief”

4/13/25 Text: Genesis 35

Main Idea: After sin, sorrow, and spiritual drift, God’s relentless grace calls His people back to Himself. The journey may be painful, but returning to the place of worship and obedience is always worth it.

1. God graciously calls His people back to Himself (vs. 1–4)

Make an altar there to the God who appeared to you... (vs.1)

Application: Where have you drifted? Are there idols to put away? This is a call to return to worship—not just with your schedule, but with your heart.

2. God protects and provides on the journey (vs. 5-8)

And as they journeyed, a terror from God fell upon the cities that were around them, so that they did not pursue the sons of Jacob. (vs. 5)

Application: Obedience doesn’t mean life will be pain-free. But it does mean we are never alone. Trust God’s protection when you take steps of obedience.

3. God reaffirms His covenant and identity (vv. 9–15)

Your name is Jacob; no longer shall your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name. (vs. 10)

Application: When you return to God, He doesn’t just take you back—He reminds you who you are in Him.

4. God is faithful through loss and legacy (vs. 16–29)

Application: Don’t confuse grief with God’s absence. His grace is deeper than your pain, and His purposes still stand.

If you were to share a key insight from today’s sermon with a friend, what would you say in a sentence or two?

Application Questions: Where in your life is God calling you to return to Him in renewed obedience and worship? What “idols” might God be asking you to put away so you can walk more faithfully with Him? How does God’s reaffirmation of Jacob’s identity encourage you in seasons of failure or drift? Even as Jacob obeyed, he still experienced loss and grief—how does God’s presence sustain you in seasons of both sorrow and faithfulness? How does this sermon help you LOVE God and others “More and More?”

Text to Give: Text an amount to (619) 333-1905

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 390698 San Diego, CA 92149

☎ (619) 881-0100 ✉ hello@providencechurchsd.org
providencechurchsd.org 🌐 @providencechurchsd



Scan me