



## Week 7: How To Get It Right After Getting It Wrong

The Christian life is one marked by grace and obedience. Our failures are always met by God's grace and multiple opportunities to try again. His voice is not one of condemnation, but of compassion. After several years living just short of obedience in Shechem, Jacob gets up at the invitation of God to go where he was originally called. Genesis 35 shows us that it's never too late to do what's right and that God always honors obedience even if it's delayed.

### Discussion Questions:

1. **Read Genesis 35:1-15.** Jacob's life was full of missteps, yet God continued to pursue him. What does this reveal about God's character and His approach to our failures? Where have you seen God's grace in your own failures?
2. Our view of God will either limit us or launch us and much of our view is determined by the kind of voice we hear when we fall short of obedience. What does God's voice sound like in your head when you get it wrong...one of grace or condemnation? How can we learn to hear God's voice as a loving Father who calls us to "get up" instead of an angry voice that leads us to give up?
3. Jacob led his family to get rid of their idols before they returned to Bethel. Why is this significant? What are some "idols" in your life that may be competing with your devotion to God?
4. God reaffirms Jacob's identity through changing his name. Why is this important? Why do you think we so easily attach our identity to our sins or successes? How does remembering our identity in Christ help us walk in obedience and live out our calling of reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:17-19)?
5. Pray together as a group, asking God for the strength to hear His voice clearly, especially in times of failure, and to reaffirm your identity as sons and daughters of God.