

# Jacob's Dream of a Ladder

In [Genesis 28](#), **Jacob**, grandson of Abraham, was making the long journey from Beersheba to Haran.

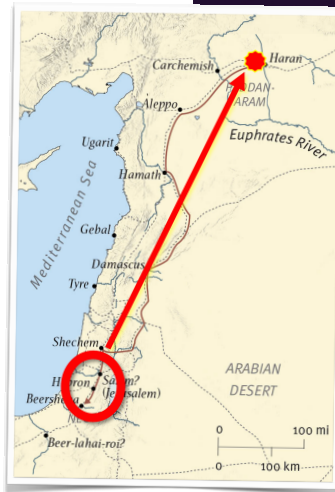
And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. And he dreamed, and behold, there was a \_\_\_\_\_ set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the \_\_\_\_\_ of God were ascending and descending on it! And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of \_\_\_\_\_ your father and the God of \_\_\_\_\_.

The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed." ([Gen 28:11-14](#))

About 1,800 years later, a man named **Nathanael** was introduced to Jesus of Nazareth and moved to confess, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel!" ([John 1:49](#)). Listen closely to what Jesus said next:

"Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven \_\_\_\_\_, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_." ([John 1:50-51](#))

**Our King** is the bridge between heaven and earth!



## For Class & Family Discussion:

- ▶ Why was Jacob making the long journey from Beersheba to Haran?
- ▶ How does this dream lead Jacob to a major step in the right direction? Notice especially his language in [Genesis 28:21](#). In practical terms, what does this mean and in what way is it a step each one of us must take?
- ▶ Can we learn anything about angels from Jacob's dream in [Genesis 28](#)?
- ▶ What can we learn and even adopt for ourselves from Philip's approach with Nathanael in [John 1](#)?
- ▶ In your own words, what is Nathanael confessing in [John 1:49](#)?
- ▶ Let's brainstorm for a moment: what sort of "greater things" would Nathanael see, just as Jesus promised in [John 1:50](#)?
- ▶ What should we take away from Jesus' words in [John 1:51](#). What do they mean for us today?