



# Leader

4/26 - Genesis 31:11; 46:2

## LOVE

**A new commandment I give to you, that you love *one another*... (John 13:34)**

- *Internal*: How was your week? Any new life updates? How was your walk with the Lord this week?
- *External*: Practically, is there any individual or family that needs encouragement from us as a group?

## TRUTH

**Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing *one another*... (Col. 3:16)**

1. When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you?

[Dialogue]

2. Let's read our primary text. Let's put our brains together here and piece together the context of these passages. Any common themes present?

[These two passages are bookends around a pivotal season of Jacob's life. In Genesis 31:11, God calls Jacob out of Laban's household and back toward Canaan. In Genesis 46:2, God meets Jacob at Beersheba as he journeys toward Egypt. In both cases, God initiates. In both cases, he calls Jacob by name. And in both cases, Jacob's obedience follows.]

3. Jacob is recounting a dream to Rachel and Leah. What's significant about the fact that God speaks to Jacob in a dream rather than face-to-face?

Dreams were a common, recognized means of divine communication in the ancient Near East, but in Scripture they carry special weight as moments where God breaks through the normal channels of human perception. Jacob is not yet the seasoned patriarch he will become. God meets him where he is, in the vulnerability of sleep. This also foreshadows Hebrews 1:1, where the author notes that God spoke "at many times and in many ways" to the fathers. Dreams were one of those ways.

4. Jacob says to the Lord, "Here I am." What all is Jacob communicating with this statement?

"Here I am" is not just a locator, it's a posture of availability and submission. It means "I am present, attentive, and ready to obey." Jacob doesn't argue, negotiate, or ask for clarification first. The repetition of "here I am" (*Hebrew: hinneni*) across the patriarchs and prophets shows that a life of faith is marked by this ongoing readiness to respond to God's voice.

5. Notice God calls him "Jacob, Jacob." Elsewhere in Scripture, name repetition signals urgency or deep tenderness (e.g., "Abraham, Abraham" in Gen. 22:11; "Moses, Moses" in Ex. 3:4; "Martha, Martha" in Luke 10:41). What do you think God is communicating by doubling Jacob's name here?

The repetition signals both urgency and intimacy. Jacob is elderly, facing a traumatic uprooting, and going to Egypt, a land historically associated with bondage and death in the Hebrew imagination. God calling his name twice is a way of saying "I see you fully, I know what this moment costs you, and I am still with you." It is a comfort before a command.

6. Compare Jacob's response here ("Here I am") to his earlier life — deceiving his father, fleeing from Esau, wrestling with God. What does this continued posture of availability in his old age suggest about the nature of sanctification? First, what is sanctification?

Jacob's life is one of the most realistic portraits of sanctification in Scripture. He is not suddenly perfected — but he is progressively shaped. The young Jacob who grabbed his brother's heel has become the old Israel who stops to worship before obeying. Sanctification is not linear, but it is real. The same person who once manipulated now stands with open hands before God. This should be an encouragement — God is patient with his people over a lifetime.

7. Both passages feature God calling Jacob by name and Jacob answering "Here I am." What would it look like in your daily life to cultivate that posture; attentive, available, and ready to obey when God speaks?

[Dialogue: God's normative method of speaking is through His word. It is through this special revelation that God leads us in paths of righteousness by the power of His Holy Spirit.]

8. Any other thoughts you would like to share before we wrap up this text?

[Dialogue]

## GREAT COMMISSION

**Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... (Matt. 28:19-20)**

- Did you disciple your family well this week? Is it apparent to others that Jesus the reason for your hope in your daily activity? Would anyone like to practice sharing the gospel with the group?

## CONFESSION/PRAYER/REPENTANCE

**But exhort *one another* every day, as long as it is called "today,"... (Heb. 3:12-14)**

- Confession is agreeing with God about our sin according to the Scriptures. Is there anything you want to confess before the group? [*apathy, idolatry, selfishness, jealousy, anger, envy*]
- Let's pray, asking God to help us apply His word to our lives.

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Sources:

- ESV Study Bible Commentary
- GotQuestions.org
- Multiple AI Resources