

**ChristChurch London Life Group Discussion Outline – 25/05/08**  
**“Transforming encounters” – Rhys Scott**

**Read Gen 28:10 – 22**

Jacob is fleeing his brother Esau, who has decided to kill him for stealing the firstborn blessing from him. Alone and cut off from the inheritance he stole, he lays his head on a rock as night falls, unaware that this will be a turning point in his life. That night God comes to him in a dream, and promises to give him all that he had promised Abraham and Isaac before him.

1. God promises Jacob a great inheritance. As believers, what is our inheritance?
2. God promises Jacob that he will be a blessing far beyond himself. We are included in this promise - God calls us to look beyond our own ambitions and needs and to see that He wants to change other people's lives because of us. How can we live lives that are not taken up with our own needs, but begin to bless others?
3. Jacob decides to make God his God, and to "build a house" for God. How can we be involved in building God's house in this day and age? (I recommend the Joshua Harris book: Stop dating the church!)
4. Jacob commits to giving God a tenth of all he receives. This is before the law was given to Israel, he wasn't obliged, he chose this. Paul tells us that God loves a cheerful giver - how can we grow in generosity and giving?