



Discussion Guide for “Friends in Low Places”

The Way, Way Back Week 6

We all know what it feels like to hit rock bottom. But we struggle to imagine that God knows what it feels like too. We can't believe that God is with us in those low times of our lives. Jacob's encounter with God at Bethel is a powerful proclamation that we are never outside of God's love. God is the best friend we could ask for – especially when we're in low places.

Scriptures for Further Reading

[Genesis 28:10-19](#)

[John 1:45-50](#)

[Mark 15:34](#)

Passage for Sacred Reading:

Sacred Reading is a way of reading Scripture with an eye toward transformation, not just information. You can find a [step-by-step guide here](#). The passage for this week's sacred reading is [Genesis 28:10-19](#).

Questions for Discussion

1. What are the kinds of rock bottoms you've seen or experienced? Why don't we associate God with those places?
2. Why do you think Jacob was surprised to find God in the place he fell asleep?
3. Genesis calls the place a *makom*. It's a word that usually refers to a temple or other sacred space. Why is it important that Genesis uses this word?
4. Reread [John 1:45-50](#). Where does Jesus reference the story of Jacob? What point is he making?
5. Where might God be with you that you did not know this week?