

Vs. – 6-7 - Worship Brings Refreshing

1. Jacob gave Bethel a new name: *El-bethel* (“God of Bethel”). How does this show his growth in understanding God?
2. How do we sometimes focus too much on *places* or *experiences* instead of God Himself?
3. How can worship reshape your perspective during seasons of weariness or discouragement?
4. What does it look like for you to find joy and refreshment in worship?

Sermon Discussion

Points for



Calvary Chapel Groups
Sunday, September 7, 2025

CALVARY
— O X N A R D —

First

Read Genesis 35:1-7

God called Jacob to leave Shechem where he and his family had stopped along the way and return to Bethel to worship and serve Him there. As Jacob prepared to leave, he realized the importance of ridding his family of all the idols they had accumulated and worshiping God alone. From these verses we can gain a clearer understanding of how God is to be worshiped, and how we too should rid ourselves of idols.

Vs. 1 – God Called Jacob to Worship

1. Why do you think God sometimes calls us back to places or moments where we've previously met Him?
2. Why do you think Jacob stopped short in Shechem instead of going all the way to Bethel?
3. What's the danger of staying in a "Shechem" (a place of partial obedience) for too long?
4. How does God speak to you and nudge you toward full obedience? What helps you move from giving God "some" to giving Him "all"?

Vs. – 2-4 - Worship to God is Exclusive

1. Why do you think Jacob began with removing idols before going to worship?

2. God is jealous for our worship. How is that a good thing for us?
3. Why do you think idols are often more subtle in our lives than obvious statues or shrines?
4. What are some "idols" that tend to creep into your own life?
5. How can we regularly examine our lives for hidden idols and remove them? How can other believers help us with this?

Vs. 5 – Worship Drives Away Enemies

1. Why do you think God chose to strike fear into the surrounding nations instead of Jacob fighting battles himself?
2. How does true worship shift our focus away from fear of the enemy and onto trust in God?
3. What's the difference between "trying to fight the enemy ourselves" versus submitting to God and letting Him fight for us?
4. Can you share a time when drawing near to God gave you strength to stand against the enemy?