

NEW NAME, *NEW YOU*

GENESIS 35:1-29

Sunday, March 30, 2025 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

When we **REPENT**, (35:1-7)

turn from... 35:1-5 Ezekiel 18:30-31; Isaiah 55:7; Colossians 3:5-10



turn to... 35:6-7 Matthew 11:28-29; John 14:6; Hebrews 12:1-2; Acts 3:19; 16:31



God gives us **A NEW IDENTITY** (35:10-15)

the old has gone... 35:10a Ephesians 4:20–22; Romans 6:6; Galatians 2:20

...the new has come! 35:10b-15 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 4:23-24; Philippians 3:13-14

and makes us **FAMILY**. (35:16-29)

heirs of promise Galatians 3:29; Romans 8:17; Ephesians 3:6

called his own John 1:12; 1 John 3:1; Romans 8:14-15; Galatians 3:26



Text us at **833-271-8805**.
— Text **APP** to get
our app.

Text this number anytime
for prayer. Just say, “**Pray
for...**” followed by your
request.



Study Guide
Questions & Scripture for Further Study

What is this? – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, & live life together. **We call them Life Groups.** The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a related part of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on a Connect Card or at the Connect Desk!

Welcome to Life Group!

Getting to Know You

Part of our goal at Life Group is just learning more about each other. Toward that end, take some time to catch up with each other as you gather.

If it helps, here's a question to discuss and get you going. Have everyone answer:

If you could pick a new name for yourself that reflects who you want to be, what would it be and why?

Digging Deeper – A Bible Study

Use this guide for further personal and group study this week. For the most impact in your life and in your group, *work through it on your own before you gather with your Life Group.* If your Life Group isn't gathering this week, use this guide for further study personally.

1. **Read Genesis 35:1-29.** (*Consider reading it from a translation like the NIV or a paraphrase like the Message to get a different feel of the narrative.*) Then take some time to review your message notes. Looking back, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you this week? *Discuss it with your group before moving on.*
2. Repentance means “to turn” or “a change of mind”. Jacob’s repentance involved both “turning from” (getting rid of idols) and “turning to” (returning to Bethel to worship God). When you think of “repentance”, what comes to mind? Negative thoughts? Positive?
 - Do you tend to think more in terms of “turning from” sin or “turning to” Christ? Why are both aspects part of true repentance?
3. Pastor Josh reviewed a helpful acronym to helping us identify idols in our lives... *Items, Duties, Others, Longings, Sufferings*. As you think about the idols you’re tempted to worship, is there a category you’re more prone toward?
 - If you're willing to share... what are some things (idols) you've turned from as you've turned to Jesus?

WELCOME TO WAWASEE!

We are sent to love people and invite them to follow Jesus with us.

If you call Wawasee Bible "home", we challenge you to pursue three things:

1. Gather

Show up regularly and gather with us for worship.

2. Grow

Don't just show up, grow up spiritually and connect in a growth ministry like Life Groups.

3. Go!

Go and serve somewhere. Contribute as much or more than you consume!

WORD FIND IN THE WORD

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

Word Find: Ephesians 4:20-24 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

²⁰ But that is not the way you **learned Christ!**— ²¹ **assuming** that you have **heard** about him and were **taught** in him, as the truth is in **Jesus**, ²² to put off your old **self**, which **belongs** to your **former manner of life** and is **corrupt** through **deceitful desires**, ²³ and to be **renewed** in the **spirit** of your **minds**, ²⁴ and to put on the new **self**, **created** after the **likeness** of God in true **righteousness** and **holiness**.

A	C	G	E	L	B	F	O	R	M	E	R
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L	U	E	E	F	S	P	I	R	I	T	G
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S	E	L	F	H	O	L	I	N	E	S	S
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life groups Study Guide (continued)

4. When God renamed Jacob "Israel," it marked a shift from his past as a deceiver to a new identity rooted in God's promises. How have you seen your own identity change since coming to faith in Christ? What old labels or habits have you let go of, and what new purpose has God given you?

 - At wawaseebible.com/habits, you can download a list of truths about your new identity in Christ. Look specifically at the "**Lie v. Truth**" section. Which lie do you tend to believe most? Read the truth.
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5. **Look up Acts 3:19** ("Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord") and **Luke 15:17-20** (the prodigal son's return to his father). How do these passages compare to Jacob's actions in **Genesis 35:1-7**?

 - What do they reveal about the connection between repentance and God's response in our lives?
6. **Genesis 35** shows God building Jacob's family into the tribes of Israel despite their imperfections (e.g., Reuben's sin). **Read 1 Peter 2:9 and John 1:12-13**. How does it encourage you to know that God includes flawed people in his family? Do you have an example from your life where this truth has made a difference?

 - What does being part of God's family mean to you personally?

Taking it Home

7. Martin Luther famously declared, "When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent' (**Matt. 4:17**), he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance." (It was #1 on his list of 95 Theses.) With that in mind, what is one way you'll turn from the old, embrace the new, and live out your true identity in Christ this week?

Prayer

As you close, take time to pray for each other.

Wawasee Bible is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. View our Statement of Faith online at wawaseebible.com/beliefs. Learn more about the EFCA at efca.org.

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PURSuing PRESENCE

Sunday, March 30, 2025

PART 8

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We're Glad You're Here Today!

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<https://wawasee.today>