**The September 29, 2021 Mission Central Meyer Minute**

Going up and down stairs is part of life. The other day Diane and I put up the ladder to clean the gutters, a nuisance job! This time of year, farmers are climbing into tractors, trucks, and combines to bring in the harvest. The greatest climbing story is Jacob’s ladder, Genesis 28. Young Jacob has permanently left home. Brother Esau is mad at him for stealing the birthright, mad enough to come kill him? What’s behind isn’t good; who knows what lies ahead?

“He dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! And behold, the Lord stood above it and said, ‘I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth…. Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go…. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.’ Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, ‘Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it.’”

Does Jacob’s Ladder apply to your workaday, worry-a-day life? Yes and no. No, if it’s just Bible history. Maybe God was there for lonely Jacob but how does that help you? Yes, it does apply when we know the ladder is more than a ladder. More than a thousand years later, Jesus said to Nathaniel, “Truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man” (John 1:51). Jacob’s Ladder is Jesus. “All the promises of God find their Yes in Him” (2 Corinthians 1:20). The promise to Jacob, “Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth,” is fulfilled in our worldwide mission for Jesus. Closest to home, the promise to Jacob, “I am with you,” is fulfilled every moment we remember Jesus comes from heaven to be with us, and not only down but also up the ladder, as the Spirit of Jesus lifts our devotion to heaven. So, next time you climb steps, at home, or truck, tractor, or combine, wherever, think of Jacob’s Ladder, think of Jesus coming down to bring you and many up to God!