



Series: Genesis

Passage: Genesis 32:1-32

Title: Wrestling with God

Speaker: Pastor David Menard, 4/16/2023

Discussion Starter – What does it mean to “wrestle with God” and in what ways do we see Jacob “wrestling” with God throughout his life up to this point?

Genesis 32:1-8:

1. What are the challenges Jacob is facing at this point in his life?
2. What is Jacob’s plan to appease his brother Esau?
3. What crucial component is Jacob’s plan lacking?
4. Why do you think God had His angels meet with Jacob? Read Matt 18:10-11, Psalm 50:15-23 and Psalm 9:9-10. Discuss your insights from these passages
5. What do you think Jacob’s mistake was in identifying the “two camps”?
 - a. *Why is it necessary to not be living in “two camps”? Are there areas in your life where you struggle with secular and spiritual separation?*

Genesis 32:9-21:

6. What type of progression do we see in the context of Jacob’s second recorded prayer in Scripture?
 - b. *What key components of Jacob’s prayer should we take note of as we pray to God?*
7. What do you see that is good about Jacob’s plan to appease Esau? What is the plan missing?

Genesis 32:22-32:

8. What is God’s purpose for this wrestling match for the entire night with Jacob?
9. What is signified by God dislocating Jacob’s hip?
 - c. *Have you ever experienced God allowing some infirmity in your life in order to get you to submit to Him? If so, share this with the group.*
 - d. *What does brokenness look like in the life of a believer?*
 - e. *Read Matthew 21:44. What are the consequences of not allowing yourself to be broken?*
10. Read Hosea 12:2-6. What additional insights do you see in this passage as it pertains to the wrestling match?
11. How did Jacob “prevail” in the wrestling match?
 - f. *What does “prevailing” look like to you in your walk with God?*
 - g. *Why is it sometimes hard to realize you are “wrestling with God”?*
 - h. *What are some of the areas in your life where God has shown you that you are wrestling with Him? Are there still areas that you have not surrendered to Him?*
 - i. *Why is it so important we allow God to prevail? Describe the concept of Victory through Surrender as it pertains to the Christian walk.*