

THURSDAY

Please read Genesis 32:24-28. What confession did Jacob need to make?

How can confession help a down time turn to an up time?

What struggle do you have when it comes to confession?

As you spend time in prayer today ask God to show you if there's anything you need to confess to Him. Pray that as you pour your heart out to Him in confession you'll find courage and peace to face your struggles.

FRIDAY

Please read Genesis 32:29-33:4. What was Jacob's surrender to God like?

What are you wrestling with God about right now? What makes you reluctant to entrust yourself to God's care?

Describe a time when God worked in your life even though you couldn't see it.

Thank God today for being trustworthy. Talk to Him about the ways you're wrestling with Him. Pray for faith to trust God's ways and timing even when you don't see Him at work.

SATURDAY

Please be sure you know this week's verse and have finished the devotions. Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray God will use them to give hope to people and that we will all grow in our prayer lives. Pray that God will use TLC to reach out to many new people with the Good News of God's amazing grace.



This week's memory verse

"But he said to my, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'
2 Corinthians 12:9a

PRAYER UPDATE

Dante Calcagno (age 16) - Valley Med, mountain biking accident

Ken Kirby - kidney & heart issues

Mark Farmer - testing, heart issues

Viola Plett - comfort care in her final days

Walter Levicki - cancer surgery & heart issues

Recent surgeries or hospitalizations

Craig Waite (bypass surgery 8/5), Paul Mahlow (foot surgery)

Hospice Care

Glorie Jan Juvan (age 14, cancer)

Elizabeth Harrell, Elaine Butler, Viola Plett



TWIN LAKES CHURCH
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WEEK 4 // AUGUST 17 & 18 // MARK SPURLOCK

Even in the womb, Jacob struggled with his brother; when he became a man, he even fought with God. Hosea 12:3 (NLT)

"JACOB" MEANS:

- Born grabbing his brother Esau's heel (Genesis 25)
- Persuades Esau to sell his birthright (Genesis 25)
- Tricks his father into giving him Esau's blessing (Genesis 27)
- Gets tricked by Laban into marrying Leah (Genesis 29)
- Marries Leah's sister Rachel a week later; birthing wars begin (Genesis 29-30)
- Selectively breeds Laban's livestock; Jacob's flocks increase (Genesis 30)
- Flees from Laban (Genesis 31)

Then the LORD said to Jacob, "Go back to the land of your fathers and to your relatives, and I will be with you." Genesis 31:3

LIKE JACOB, I WRESTLE WITH...

1. MY

When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, "We went to your brother Esau, and now he is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him." Genesis 32:6

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2. MY

In great fear and distress Jacob divided the people who were with him into two groups... He thought, "If Esau comes and attacks one group, the group that is left may escape." Genesis 32:7-8

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Then Jacob prayed, "O God of my father Abraham, God of my father Isaac, LORD, **you who said to me**, 'Go back to your country and your relatives, and I will make you prosper,' I am unworthy of all the kindness and faithfulness you

have shown your servant... Save me, I pray... for I am afraid he will come and attack me, and also the mothers with their children. **But you have said**, 'I will surely make you prosper and will make your descendants like the sand of the sea, which cannot be counted.'" Genesis 32:9-12

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"What comes from heaven in a promise should be sent back to heaven as a prayer." -Andy Richardson

3. MY

So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak." But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." Genesis 32:24-26

The man asked him, "What is your name?" "Jacob," he answered. Genesis 32:27

Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome." Genesis 32:28

"ISRAEL" MEANS:

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Jacob said, "Please tell me your name." But he replied, "Why do you ask my name?" **Then he blessed him there.** Genesis 32:29 (See: Judges 13:17-18)

So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared." The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip. Genesis 32:30-31

Jacob looked up and there was Esau, coming with his four hundred men... But Esau ran to meet Jacob and embraced him; he threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. And they wept. Genesis 33:1-4

SO REMEMBER:

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AND ASK:

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Resources

Hustling God, M. Craig Barnes, Zondervan, 1999.

DAILY MEDITATIONS

MONDAY

Please read Genesis 32:6-33:4. This is such an interesting story! What did you learn about Jacob from this life event?

In what way can you relate to Jacob in this story?

What is one thing you learned from Jacob's life that you could apply to your life this week?

Thank God today for including the story of Jacob in the Bible. Thank God for His amazing love for you. Ask Him to soften your heart this week as you study the story of Jacob. Pray that you'll be willing to change as He leads you.

TUESDAY

Please read Genesis 32:6, Psalm 103:12 & Isaiah 43:18-19. As you look back over Jacob's history in the notes, what kind of past was Jacob running from?

What part of your past do you feel is still "haunting" you? What impact has that had on your life?

What does God say about your past (whether it's decisions you made or decisions others made that impacted you)?

Thank God today for His forgiveness and grace. Talk to Him about the ways you are wrestling with your past. Pray that you will have the courage to stop wrestling with the past and instead rest in God's grace and forgiveness.

WEDNESDAY

Read Genesis 32:7-12. What fear was Jacob facing?

What role has fear played in your life lately? How has that caused you to wrestle with God?

How does your fear reveal who or what you're counting on in life?

Read Psalm 13. What fear was the psalmist facing? How did he find encouragement in his down time?

How does this encourage you?

Thank God today that He is with you no matter what fear you're facing. Thank Him for the encouragement of scripture. Talk to Him about the fears you're struggling with right now. Pray that you'll "trust in His unfailing love."