

ILLUMINATED by Holy Spirit
SATURATED by God's Word
COMMUNICATED by God's Teacher

GENESIS

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

THE BIG IDEA

.As we trust God in obedience,
He will bless our lives.

Sunday, November 13, 2022

THE BIBLE *Genesis 32*

QUESTIONS

- v. 3-5: Jacob left his father's house 20 earlier because he feared his brother Esau would kill him for his deception. He left with his staff and little else. He returns with an abundance of property, family, and blessings. Sometimes God takes us on detours in life to teach us about ourselves and about Him. Has God ever taken you on a difficult detour only to find his blessings?
- v. 9-12: God told Jacob to return home and that He would be with him, yet Jacob still went in fear. Jacob calls out to God in prayer during a scary situation. How do troubles affect our prayer life? Does our prayer life change when our troubles dissipate?
- v. 7-12: When God leads us, we can trust Him. God told Jacob in Gen. 31:3 to return home and that He would be with him. Why is it difficult to trust God when He commands us to do something? How was Jacob trusting in his flesh (v. 7-8)? How was he trusting in God (v. 9-12)?
- v. 24: Jacob was alone, and He encountered God. What is the importance of us finding solitude to meet with God? What distractions in life hinder our solitude with God?
- v. 22-29: God allowed Jacob to wrestle with Him. God blessed Jacob during this struggle. He also changed his name to Israel, and He touched his hip joint causing a life-long limp. When we encounter God, we always leave changed (new name and limp for Jacob). What transformation does God bring about in our lives when we encounter Him today? For the lost? For believers?

FURTHER STUDY NUGGETS

Look up Ephesians 6:12. Oftentimes in life, our battles seem to be against someone or a situation. This passage shows us that our battle is more spiritual than physical.

The word "Mahanaim" in 32:1 means "double camp." Jacob had two camps . . . his and God's. God has one path for believers . . . not two. Study how we battle our flesh vs. the Spirit.

Jacob's name change: The name Jacob means "supplanter," which can also be translated "someone who seizes, circumvents, usurps, or deceives." After wrestling with God, God changed his name to Israel, which means "let God prevail." When we encounter God, He changes everything about us. Study these two names to dig deeper into Jacob's new life.

THE FIVE

5 Verses For Discussion During Week

(Discipleship partner, around dinner table, on way to school in car, etc)



Monday
Ephesians 6:12

Tuesday
Isaiah 41:10

Wednesday
Proverbs 16:7

Thursday
Proverbs 3:5-6

Friday
2 Corinthians 5:17

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH: 1 Corinthians 10:31

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."