



Part 7: Wrestling With God

Many of us spend our lives trying to carry more, control more, and accomplish more, believing that everything depends on us. This Bible story speaks to anyone who is exhausted from striving, worried about outcomes, or discovering the limits of their own strength.

Discussion Questions

1. What are some areas of life where people are most tempted to control outcomes rather than trust God? Why do you think control can feel so important to us?
2. Read Genesis 32:22-32. Jacob expects a confrontation with Esau, but instead finds himself wrestling with God. What do you think the story is revealing about Jacob's real struggle?
3. After his hip is dislocated, Jacob stops trying to overpower his opponent and instead clings to him. What do you think has changed in Jacob at that moment?
4. Throughout Jacob's story there is a recurring theme of people not seeing clearly. What does Jacob finally "see" at Peniel that he had missed for most of his life?
5. In the message, it was suggested that Jacob spent his life trying to get the right things in the wrong ways. What are some ways people today seek security, significance, blessing, or success through striving, manipulation, or control?
6. Jacob leaves the encounter blessed, but limping. How can weakness, disappointment, or hardship become a means through which God teaches dependence and trust? What is the difference between trying to control outcomes and simply being faithful to what God has called you to do?

Moving Forward

What are you most tempted to grab onto for security right now? What might it look like to loosen your grip on that and cling more tightly to God instead?