

9. Blessing is about *picturing a good future*; name is about *knowing the character of God*. Which of these do you feel most in need of today?

10. Jacob was given a new name: “God-wrestler.” If God were to give you a new name (and he will; see Revelation 2:17), what would you like it to be? What do you think it might be?

Sermon Series: The Journey

This week: Wrestling With God
TEXT: Genesis 28:10-22 & 32:22-32

CONNECT



Life Changing Community Through Life Groups

- *SERMON NOTES*
- *LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE*

Date: Thursday, June 5 & Sunday, June 8, 2014

Wrestling With God

Four Milestones on the Journey:

- _____ – Where are you finding security apart from God?
- _____ – Rely on the character of the promise-giver.
- _____ – Obey the call...even when it doesn't seem to make sense.
- _____ – Remember where God has appeared to you.

Wrestling with God

6. How would you differentiate between *wrestling with God* and *wrestling against God*?

7. What two requests does Jacob make of his adversary in verses 26 and 29? What do those two requests signify for him?

Taking It Home

8. How do you tend to wrestle with God? How do you wrestle against God? Are there particular areas of your life that cause wrestling?



Digging Deeper

Read Genesis 32. As you read, keep in mind that Jacob and Esau had been constantly at odds with each other; look at Genesis 27:41 for a clue to just how powerful their enmity was.

3. How do Jacob's words and actions in verses 3-8 demonstrate the impact of his life of deception?

4. What does Jacob ask of God in verses 9-12?
(See Genesis 28:13-15, too.)

5. How does Jacob's prayer (9-12) set the stage for his wrestling match? How might the wrestling be an answer to that prayer?

When we wrestle with God, we are _____

Answers: Separation; Promise; Obedience; Remembrance; A New Name; transformed

Moving from Information to Transformation

Our focus is “To be...”, not just “To do...” Being a Christ follower involves wrestling with three critical questions:

What do I need to KNOW of God’s truth to know Jesus more deeply?

How do I need to EXPERIENCE the Spirit’s power to be more like Jesus?

What do I need to DO – how am I going to think differently and act differently now?

Life Group Study Guide
This guide can be used for deeper study and reflection on your own or in a Life Group with others.

Ice Breaker

What does your name mean? How does that name fit who you are?

Warming Up

Read Genesis 12:1-3. The promise God makes, he repeats to Abraham (22:15-18), to his son Isaac (26:1-5), and to Isaac’s son, Jacob (28:13-14).

1. What do you think is the significance of this repetition to the three generations?

2. Are there promises God has made in the past that you need to hear him repeat to you?