

# Living in Light of God's Truth

## Jacob

*Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Ryan Conlon / June 21, 2026*

**Genesis 32:22-30** “The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup> He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. <sup>24</sup> And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. <sup>25</sup> When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup> Then he said, ‘Let me go, for the day has broken.’ But Jacob said, ‘I will not let you go unless you bless me.’ <sup>27</sup> And he said to him, ‘What is your name?’ And he said, ‘Jacob.’ <sup>28</sup> Then he said, ‘Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.’ <sup>29</sup> Then Jacob asked him, ‘Please tell me your name.’ But he said, ‘Why is it that you ask my name?’ And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup> So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, ‘For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered.’”

### I. God Gets Jacob Alone

**Genesis 32:22-24** “The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup> He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. <sup>24</sup> And Jacob was left alone...”

Sometimes God removes the very things we intentionally or unintentionally use to keep Him at arm's length.

Often, before God changes a person, He gets them alone.

**Matthew 6:6** “But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

When was the last time you got alone with God - away from distractions and the busyness of life?

### II. God Breaks Jacob

**Genesis 32:24-25** “And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. <sup>25</sup> When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.”

God lets Jacob rely on his strength all night, then removes it in an instant.

- A. The great fight of Jacob's life isn't tomorrow against Esau, it's right here with God.
- B. God humbles Jacob, removing what made him strong, so that he'd rely on a greater strength.

**2 Corinthians 12:9-10** "But He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. <sup>10</sup> For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

### III. God Blesses Jacob

**Genesis 32:26** "Then He said, 'Let me go, for the day has broken.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go unless you bless me.'"

**Exodus 33:20** "'But,' He said, 'you cannot see My face, for man shall not see Me and live.'"

Two Remarkable things from Genesis 32:26

- A. Jacob clings to God with a broken hip.

Jacob clung to his brother's heel, and he clung to his Father's inheritance, hoping to get blessing out of them, but now he's found what truly blesses and he won't let go.

- B. Jacob is willing to lose his life to receive blessing.

All his life Jacob fought to preserve his life, but now Jacob has reached a point where he's willing to lose it all, to lose his life, rather than leave without God's blessing.

**Matthew 10:39** "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."

**Genesis 32:27** "And he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.'"

**Genesis 27:36** "Esau said, 'Is he not rightly named Jacob? For he has cheated me these two times. He took away my birthright, and behold, now he has taken away my blessing...'"

If you want real change, you won't get it by playing pretend with God, because God cannot transform the person you're pretending to be.

When Jacob gets honest and confesses - God doesn't condemn... He makes him new.

**Genesis 32:28** “Then he said, ‘Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.’”

When Jacob wrongs Esau, Esau says, “that name is fitting”, and he swears to get revenge.

When Jacob confesses to God, God says, “that name is wrong”, and changes it.

**Genesis 32:29** “Then Jacob asked him, ‘Please tell me your name.’ But he said, ‘Why is it that you ask my name?’ And there he blessed him.”

Jacob leaves the fight receiving what he didn’t deserve. Jacob is blessed because he receives grace.