

Message Notes

Pastor Dan Stockum

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Genesis 32:22-32

Date: March 24, 2019

Bible Focus: Genesis 32:22-32

Series: Only by Prayer

Message Title: The Struggle is Real

Genesis 32:22-32 – ²² That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. ²⁴ So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. ²⁵ 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. ²⁶ Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak."

But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

²⁷ The man asked him, "What is your name?"

"Jacob," he answered.

²⁸ 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."

²⁹ Jacob said, "Please tell me your name."

But he replied, "Why do you ask my name?" Then he blessed him there.

³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared."

³¹ The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip. ³² Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the tendon attached to the socket of the hip, because the socket of Jacob's hip was touched near the tendon.

Why do we persist?

Who do we wrestle?

Who wins?

1. In what ways can you relate to Jacob?
2. When have you felt like you've been in a wrestling match with something you wanted?
3. When have you persisted the longest? Why did you stop?
4. Have you ever discovered you were wrestling God after you began persisting for something else? When?
5. When you have wrestled with God in the past, who do you believe "won" that match?
6. Have you ever felt like you needed to persist with God in order to find or rediscover a sense of His goodness or to feel His presence? When?
7. In what ways has God changed you as a result of wrestling with Him?