

JACOB-Wrestling with God Gen. 32 *Live Into God's Story* 10-23-16

“Lord, will only a few be saved?” **Lk.13:23-24**

Have you entered Kingdom of God?

Jesus: Very difficult & especially hard if rich.

Meet Jacob! Coming Home ... & still running!

1. THE SELF-MADE MAN

*** Successful & Secure**

~ Jacob & Uncle Laban: Greedy deceivers out maneuver other. **31:9**

~ Angels: God is still here Bethel: Dream of angels & a promise

*** ...But Afraid!**

~ Fake humility for favor?

~ Jabbok R. - Border of home ... & panicked.

~ Prays: **HELP!** Hint of change?

~ Still tries to control!

*** ...And Alone!** v.24

2. CONFRONTED AT THE DOOR

*** Struggling Match**

~ Down ... Disabled ... Desperate

*** Change Point**

~ What's your character? **Jacob** I will change your name: **Israel**

Grace carries Israel home to God's Promised Land & home to Esau!

Receive the Kingdom of God only by God's gift of grace!

Narrow door (Lk.13) -**Vine & branch** (Jn 15) -**Little child** (Lk.18)

JACOB - Wrestling With God

Read & reflect together on the Word as a family throughout the week.

Genesis 25:19-34 Jacob & Esau

1. Why are the 2 unborn babies struggling?
2. How does Jacob take advantage of his brother?

Genesis 27:1-45 Jacob Deceives Isaac & Esau

1. How do Jacob & Rebekah outsmart Isaac?
When have you tries to outsmart someone?
2. What does this say about character & relationship to God?
3. Why does God seem to favor Jacob?

Genesis 28:10-22 Jacob's Dream at Bethel

1. What does God promise Jacob in the dream with angels?
2. What do think about Jacob's response on waking after the dream?
3. What do you think of Jacob's vow?
How have you ever bargained with God?

Genesis 29:1-35 Jacob Marries Leah & Rachel

1. What stands out about Jacob's meeting with Rachel?
2. What is the irony with the younger/older role reversal?
3. Why does Jacob's 14 years of work seem to go quickly?

Genesis 33 Jacob Meets Esau

1. How was Jacob's meeting with Esau surprising?
2. Are the 2 brothers reconciled? With whom do you need to reconcile?
3. Jacob refuses Esau's offer to travel together. What does this & going to different towns suggest about their relationship?