

GOD is greater than > self

Genesis 32:1-32

❖ We are not alone (God's Presence in our World) - Genesis 32:1-2

- Jacob is met by Angels as he prepares to re-enter the Land of the Covenant (Genesis 32:1)
Gen. 28:10-22 (met by God when he first left the Land of the covenant as well)
- Jacob names the place Manahaim (Genesis 32:2)
"2 Camps" (Jacob's camp and the camp of Angels)
Psalm 91:11-12

❖ We are tempted to cover our sin with self sufficiency and self effort - Genesis 32:3-21

- Jacob's Self sufficient Plan to earn Esau's Forgiveness, Part I (Genesis 32:3-5)
"I have been staying with Laban" (vs. 4)
"I have cattle's and donkey's, sheep and goats and servants" (vs. 5)
"I am sending you this message, that I may find favor in your eyes" (vs. 5)
- Esau's response (Genesis 32:6-8)
"I am coming to meet you with 400 Men" (vs. 6)
Jacob in fear divides his family (vs. 7-8)
- Jacob's Prayer (Genesis 32:9-12)
A Prayer of Invocation (vs.9): "Oh God of my Father Abraham..."
A Prayer of Confession (vs. 10): "I am unworthy..."
A Prayer of Petition (vs. 11): "deliver me..."
A Prayer of Trust (vs. 12): "For You said..."
- Jacob's Self effort Plan to earn Esau's forgiveness, Part II (Genesis 32:13-21)
Send Free Gifts: 220 Goats, 220 Sheep/rams, 30 camels plus their young, 50 cows/bulls, 30 donkeys (vs. 13-15)
In order to "appease him" (vs. 16-21)
The Hebrew for "appease" literally means, "To wipe the anger off of his (Esau's) face."

❖ In Brokenness, We Become Dependent on God - Genesis 32:22-32

- Jacob is alone at night (Genesis 32:22-23)
- A Mysterious Stranger Shows up to Wrestle Jacob (Genesis 32:24)
God appears in humble, human form (see John 1:1 & Philippians 2:7-8)
- A Life Changing Wound leads to Brokenness and Surrender (Genesis 32:25)
In Jacob's "Brokenness" at 97 years old, he finally surrenders to God
Isaiah 53:5 - "by His (Jesus) wounds we are healed."
- Jacob's Life is transformed (Genesis 32:26-32)
Jacob's name change to "Israel" (vs. 28)
2 Corinthians 5:17 - If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation..."
Jacob goes from wrestling with God to now wrestling for God (vs. 30)

Digging Deeper Genesis 32 | God>self

Day 1: Today, read the account of “Jacob’s Ladder” in [Genesis 28:10-22](#) as Jacob leaves the land of the covenant. Then go to [Genesis 32:1-2](#) and read where 20 years later, Jacob enters back into the land of the covenant. Why did God reveal himself so clearly to Jacob as he left and then re-entered the land? How does God reveal Himself to you today as you enter uncharted, unknown territory? Read [Psalm 91:11-12](#) and [Romans 8:35-39](#) for further study and encouragement.

Day 2: Read [Genesis 32:9-12](#) today. In this passage, Jacob prays the longest recorded prayer in book of Genesis up to this point. Take the structure of this prayer and make it your prayer for today:

#1 {[Genesis 32:9](#)} **Invocation:** Tell God how awesome He is

#2 {[Genesis 32:10](#)} **Confession:** Confess your unworthiness and sin to God

#3 {[Genesis 32:11](#)} **Petition:** Ask God to meet your needs

#4 {[Genesis 32:12](#)} **Trust:** Ask God to give you strength to trust His promises

Day 3: Read [Genesis 32:13-21](#) today. Jacob sent gifts to Esau in an attempt to make up for his past wrong doings. We often attempt to do the same thing with God, presenting our gifts and works to Him in an attempt to make up for our past wrong doings. Read [Ephesians 2:1-10](#) to understand why this is a mistake.

Day 4: Read [Genesis 32:24-25](#) today. Jacob wrestles a mysterious stranger, who turns out to be God in the flesh (the pre-incarnate Jesus!). God shows a small glimpse of His restrained power by wounding Jacob’s hip. In Jacob’s physical and spiritual “brokenness”, he finally (after 97 years), surrenders to God. Reflect back on a time in your life when you felt spiritually, physically or emotionally “broken.” Was it easier in this time to surrender to God? Ask God today, to allow you to remain “broken” and desperate for God in your normal daily life.

Day 5: Read [Genesis 32:26-32](#). Jacob’s name and identity are changed by God. When you make Jesus Christ your Savior and Lord, your identity is changed as well. Read and spend time reflecting on [2 Corinthians 5:17](#)

Day 6: Read [Genesis 33:18](#) thru [Genesis 34:31](#) in preparation for this Sunday’s message, “God is Greater than Revenge.”

Response at the Stations

SHARE YOUR STORY - Just as we’ve seen God’s grace and provision through Jacob’s life story in Genesis, we want to know your story as well. During today’s message, we are going to give you time to express the unique story God is authoring in your life. If you’d like to write more, you may also go to calvarylife.org/share and share your story online.

COMMUNION - This Sunday communion is available around the room at several stations. Take the elements of the bread and the cup in remembrance of what Christ has done for you.

GIVING - We encourage you and your family to bring your offering, as your prayerful gift of worship to God, to the containers located at the stations. Offering envelopes are available in the chair racks for your use.

PRAYER - After the message, there will be prayer counselors in the Prayer Booth, located on the far right side of the auditorium, to pray with you this morning.



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