

Question Set #1

Genesis 32:1-21

Questions:

- How does Jesus' life, death, and resurrection remove the need for long-standing bitterness and unforgiveness in our relationships? How does he give us courage and humility to approach those relationships with new hope?
- Why is it helpful to recount God's character and promises as we make our requests in prayer? Can you share a time when you've done that recently?
- Is there an area of life where self-protection and self-preservation have taken the place of seeking God's protection?

Question Set #2

Genesis 32: 22-32

Questions:

- Describe how Jesus, the "true and better" Israel? (hint: as one commentator said, "He wrestled with God on our behalf, holding on to God until he received the promised blessing.")
- In what areas of life do you struggle with God? What would it look like for you—through weakness and humility—to surrender to God in this area?
- Even though Jacob has a new and totally transformed name by God's grace, he doesn't go on to live in this new name perfectly. How are you like Jacob/Israel in this way? What helps you live like your new nature?

Questions Set #3

Genesis 33:1-20

Questions:

- How does Jesus' death on our behalf offer us full reconciliation and restitution in our relationship with God the Father?
- How does that reconciliation motivate us in our relationships today? In your life has God's grace led to reconciliation and restitution in a relationship?
- In what relationships do you fail to be straightforward about your hope in and plan to follow God? How might a "truth in love" approach benefit someone who doesn't follow Christ?