

The Life of Jacob II  
Genesis 29-49  
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Intro: None of us would want to have our lives written out for all to see. Maybe we would accept only our good days being shared publicly, but not all of it. With Jacob we see it all good and bad. One phrase of one verse may state it best, Gen 32:28, in the middle of the verse states, "...you have struggled with God and with man..." Across the generations we have seen these characters portrayed in movies. Steve McQueen's Luke, in the classic "Cool Hand Luke" portrays the struggle to find the balance between a God of love and grace, and a life of difficulty and pain. Recently, Jim Carey's Bruce, in "Bruce Almighty", takes a comic attempt at questioning the balance of an all powerful sovereign God and the free will of man. Both of these movies address the consequences of our choices and how we make them.

Interog: Jacob is a man whose choices lead to very serious consequences. Does it seem that your life is just series of one struggle to the next? If so, maybe Jacob can point you to a hope of a new life and a new walk.

Last week we ended with Jacob fleeing his brother, this event occurs when he is on his way back home before he come to his brother.

Read Scripture: Genesis 32:22-32

**1. Jacob Struggled with Man Gen 25:26 – 49:27**

From his birth with Esau till his death and the remembrance of his children  
Esau, Laban, Schechem, his sons

**2. Jacob Struggled with God, Gen 28:10-22, 32:22-32, 35:9-15**

A vision, a wrestling match and a reaffirmation

In there first meeting God gave Jacob a vision and a blessing Jacobs response was "if then"

The second meeting was a battle of wills that resulted in a limp. Jacob reconciled with his brother and built an alter.

The third meeting God met him in his rest, Jacob worshiped.

Great trials followed, death of Rachel in child birth, sin of Reuben, death of father.

**Conclusion:** Jacob's life ended with the reunion of his family under the protection of Joseph his favored son. Jacob died knowing that his family was together, and that they had the provision of God, his life of struggle ended with a measure of peace. You can find peace today, regardless of your past, stop wrestling and surrender to God's care and love.