

2024



# JACOB TO ISRAEL

ALLOW ME TO REINTRODUCE MYSELF:

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

1 Corinthians 13:11 NIV - [11] *When I was a child, **I talked** like a child, **I thought** like a child, **I reasoned** like a child. **When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.***

- Reflect over your life and admit you are not who you used to be
- This does not make you perfect, it means you have evolved
- Maturity comes with life experiences
- Your age has to match your behavior

*What changes have you made in your life that others may not have realized?*

## EVOLUTION IS ESSENTIAL

It is essential that you be in an environment that allows you to grow. While God doesn't change, because He is already everything He's going to be, He allows us to change. He creates opportunities for us to change. God is a change agent. When God changes us, he reveals his original intent. God is trying to get the real you out of you and return you to His original thoughts about you. A weak minded person will run from change. A spiritual and strong person doesn't wait for change, but will create the change. The enemy would love for you to keep coming to church but not to change.

## THE CHOICE IS CHANGE!

### IMPOSTER SYNDROME:

UNFOUNDED FEELINGS OF SELF DOUBT AND IMPENITENCE WHICH PEOPLE DOUBT THEIR SKILLS, TALENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS DESPITE YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS

**Jacob means: Supplanter or Deceitful.** One who takes the Heel.

Genesis 25:21-26a -[21] *Isaac prayed to the Lord on behalf of his wife, because she was childless. The Lord answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant. [22] The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, “Why is this happening to me?” So she went to inquire of the Lord. [23] The Lord said to her, “Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger.” [24] When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. [25] The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. [26] After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when Rebekah gave birth to them.*

- What you are carrying is so strong it split into two (twins)

- A promise was made in the womb
- You don't have to prove yourself when there is a promise over your life
- My performance doesn't prove my place, but the promise of God
- While living under the pressure of people's opinion don't lower your standards and perform for people
- Value God's validation over people's opinions

*What was/is God's promise to you? How can you focus on the promise instead of people?*

## WHO HE WAS!!!

### TOXIC TRAITS:

*Toxic traits are negative behaviors or qualities that harm relationships, well-being and personal growth. These traits can create discomfort, tension, and unhappiness in interactions with others. They often include actions like constant negativity, manipulation or excessive self-centeredness which can erode trust and emotional connections.*

## 1) FIGHTER

Genesis 25:22a NIV - *The babies jostled each other within her.*

Genesis 25:26a - *After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob.*

- He was violent from the beginning
- In the womb, he was a fighter
- His toxic trait was making a fight when its not even necessary to fight
- Your struggle to not be toxic is real
- You are struggling to secure your seat at the table, but God already created that space
- You have to resist the need to respond to everyone's foolishness
- If you fight for you, you don't allow God to fight for you
- The Bible states "vengeance is mine saith the Lord"

*What conditioned you to fight? Why or why not is your need to fight a toxic trait? How can you overcome the urge to fight?*

## 2) MANIPULATOR

Genesis 25:30-31 NIV - [30] He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!" (That is why he was also called Edom.) [31] Jacob replied, "*First sell me your birthright.*"

- Don't allow one meal to change your destiny
- Be careful about allowing one thing to feed your flesh to change your eternity
- Don't manipulate the call God has on your life
- Toxic people can only give you something if they get something from you

*What are you manipulating in your life to get what you want? How can you ensure you aren't being a manipulator?*

## **THE BENEFITS OF THE BIRTHRIGHT**

- **INHERITANCE RIGHTS OF THE FIRST BORN**
- **A DOUBLE PORTION OF ALL THE INHERITANCE**
- **THE TITLE AS HEAD OF THE FAMILY AFTER THE PASSING OF THE FATHER**

### **3) LIAR**

*Genesis 27:18-19 NIV -] He went to his father and said, "My father." "Yes, my son," he answered. "**Who is it?**" [19] Jacob said to his father, "**I am Esau your firstborn.** I have done as you told me. Please sit up and eat some of my game, so that you may give me your blessing."*

- Lies bring division
- In a toxic environment you learn toxic behaviors
- Be careful of allowing everything you know to become wrapped up in deception
- Ask God to expose any darkness in your heart
- Your promise is bigger than the lie
- There is some stuff in you that needs exposure
- Lies will make you ashamed of who you are
- When you know you're already blessed you don't have to repeat negative behavior
- Don't come down to others level of immaturity

*What lie have you told that is still negatively affecting your life? What are you currently doing that is not serving you and your promise? What is your birthright?*

**YOU WORK FOR THE BLESSING WHEN YOU DIDN'T REALIZE YOU'RE ALREADY BLESSED.**

**WHEN YOU KNOW YOU'RE BLESSED YOU WORK THE BLESSING - NOT FOR IT.**

Genesis 28:10 NIV - *Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran.*

- At times, you will be required to leave your friends and family
- God will isolate you, but he’s in it with you
- Separation from some people is for your good
- When you come back from isolation you will not be the same person

*Do you have any idea what God is working on in your life? What is it?*

## HOW HE LEFT!!!

- He left out as a fighter, manipulator, and liar
- People that live in the flesh cannot see in the spirit
- I did it but I am not what I did
- Don't let one thing that feeds your flesh keep you from your destiny
- You will be reintroduced better, stronger and wiser
- You are here by the grace and mercy of God
- In spite of what you did the hand of God is still on your life

*When God separates you, what is your initial heart posture? What are some things God made you leave behind?*

## GOD ENCOUNTER

Genesis 28:15 NIV - *I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and **I will bring you back to this land.** I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”*

- God will meet you right where you are
- God will not leave you
- God will work on you until His work is done
- God can save you from the sin, but there will be consequences that you might not avoid
- Don't discount yourself because you failed, get up and walk closer to God
- You will become who He created you to be
- You have to want the glory of God around you
- The liar, manipulator and fighter is away and birthing the 12 Tribes of Israel
- God will connect you with the right people to do what He called you to do
- God allowed things in your life so people will see the Glory of God on you

*What does an encounter with God look like to you? When was the last time you had a true encounter with God?*

**YOU DON'T NEED TO PRESENT YOURSELF AS SOMEONE YOU'RE  
NOT TO GET WHAT GOD PROMISED YOU!!**

**20 YEARS LATER**

Genesis 31:3 NIV - Then the Lord said to Jacob, "**Go back** to the land of your fathers and to your relatives, and **I will be with you.**"

- God won't let you return the same way you left
- When you wait on God, He will honor every promise
- You left empty, but you will come back full
- You left down, but you will return up
- You left sick, but you will return healed
- You left lacking, but you will return having more than enough

*In your exit what has God changed in your life for his glory? In your return what has fallen off?*

Genesis 31:38a - "**I have been with you for twenty years now.**"

- God is with you
- God is going to finish what he started in you
- You're about to experience God's Glory

*How desperate are you for the Glory? What are you doing to experience the glory of God?*

**WHAT GOD USES TO CHANGE YOU:**

- TIME
- AGE
- PEOPLE
- EXPERIENCES
- LIFE
- These things will cause you to think and respond differently
- You have not been wasting time
- God will use life to change you
- You are no longer the same person
- You had to go through all of that to become who you are today
- You are not what you did

*What change has been evident in your life to yourself and others?*

**YOUR DNA DOESN'T CHANGE YOUR DESTINY!!!**

## HOW HE CAME BACK (ALLOW ME TO REINTRODUCE MYSELF) YOUR FIGHT HAS CHANGED

Genesis 32:24-25 - [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.

- Your fight changes, you no longer fight for the former things
- You have to hold on to God
- Authentic worship is a fight
- Your fight partner has to change
- Where you are going stuff and peoples opinions mean nothing
- If you let go of the past God will do the new thing
- Let God change you from the inside out
- You are living with the limp so you remember who you are even though you no longer do what you used to do
- God is trying to deliver you not destroy you
- The fight is you wrestling with God's ideas about you versus who you think you are

*How has the way you worship God changed since letting go of some things? How can you know if you seek him for His glory or things?*

## YOUR DESIRES HAVE CHANGED

Genesis 32:26 NIV -Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak." But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

- Get in a place where you need God more than anything
- You have to be willing to hold on to God no matter what
- It has to be God over everything
- You do not have time to play in the Spirit
- You do not have time to play church
- You do not have time to play with people
- Don't let go of God, want what He thinks about you
- Allow God to open you up until your desire changes

*What do you desire at this phase of life? How do you know your desires are in alignment with the will of God?*

## YOUR SPEECH HAS CHANGED

Genesis 32:27 NIV - The man asked him, "What is your name?" "Jacob." he answered.

- You no longer speak in the same manner as before
- You no longer speak lies
- Your speech is in alignment with the will of God
- You have to know how to call on the name of Jesus

*What about you has changed since you encountered God? What do you call yourself now?*

## YOUR NAME HAS CHANGED

Genesis 32:28 NIV- 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."

- You have struggled with God and man
- Your commitment to the fight has allowed you to overcome
- You are now a new person
- Don't die a Jacob when there is an Israel inside of you
- God gives you a new identity, walk in it

*When you look at yourself and take into account all that you have endured, how do you identify yourself now? What three words define you?*

God changed Jacob's name to Israel, meaning 'let God prevail.'

2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

- You have to leave the past in the past
- Your past is a reminder of God's grace and mercy
- Your past does not dictate who you are today
- Your past does not define you
- You have been born anew in Christ Jesus

*Because of the renewing of your mind, what has been made new in your life?*

## QUESTION

*How can you live in God's promise and embrace your new name?*

## DECLARATION

*I decree and I declare that my old sinful nature is gone, and I am a new creature in Jesus Christ.  
I am a child of God!*

## **PRAYER**

*Father God, I have lived a life that at times did not honor You. I thank You for Your grace, mercy and love toward me. You have pulled me out of the darkness of my past and gave me a new name with a new language, desire and purpose. I no longer fight my past, but I fight to be in the presence of Your glory. Because of You, I am a new creation and I desire to seek and serve You all the days of my life in Jesus' name, Amen!*