

HEROES – 5
“Jacob”
March 19, 2023

Hebrews 12:1 *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.* (NIV)

**When your life isn't turning out the way you hoped...
let God have control of your life.**

WHEN GOD IS IN CONTROL...

1. You'll get new strength.

Genesis 32:24-25 *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.* (NIV)

Matthew 11:28-29 *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”* (NIV)

2. You'll get a new identity.

Genesis 32:27-28 *“What is your name?” the man asked. He replied, “Jacob.” 28 “Your name will no longer be Jacob,” the man told him. “From now on you will be called Israel, because you have fought with God and with men and have won.”* (NLT)

John 1:42 *And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas” (which, when translated, is Peter).* (NIV)

3. You'll get a new joy.

Genesis 32:29 *Jacob said, “Please tell me your name.” But he replied, “Why do you ask my name?” Then he blessed him there.* (NIV)

Matthew 5:6 *“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.”* (NIV)

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

- **Brokenness precedes breakthrough.**

Psalm 51:17 *The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.* (NLT)

1 Peter 5:5-6 *“God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” 6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.* (NIV)

- **You must lose yourself to find yourself.**

Mark 8:34 *Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.”* (NIV)

Mark 8:35 *For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.* (NIV)

- **When you find yourself on God's terms, you find fulfillment.**

Romans 12:1-2 *Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.* (NIV)