

PEOPLE LIKE US

June 28
Jacob
Trusting God and His Timing

Scripture

Genesis 25:21-34, 27, 28:10-15, 32:22-31 | Proverbs 3:5-6 | Romans 12:1-2

- What is a time you tried to “help” something happen faster, but it ended up making things more complicated?
 - What did that reveal about your patience or trust? What about *theirs*?
- When you hear the phrase “taking matters into your own hands,” what kind of situations come to mind?
 - Why do those moments feel so urgent?

Diving IN

- In *Genesis 25*, God speaks before Jacob and Esau are even born. What does this reveal about God’s plan before anyone tries to control the outcome?
 - How should that shape the way we read the rest of Jacob’s story?
- What did Jacob receive from Esau in *Genesis 25*? What did he receive through deception in *Genesis 27*?
 - What do you notice about the difference between God’s promise and Jacob’s methods?
 - Where do you see Jacob trying to secure what God had already promised?
- Rebekah and Jacob seem to believe they need to step in to make sure God’s plan happens. What does this show us about trusting God’s timing and God’s way?
 - What might they have misunderstood about faith?
- In *Genesis 28:10-15*, God meets Jacob while he is running from the consequences. What stands out about God’s promise to Jacob in that moment?
 - What does this tell us about God’s faithfulness, even when people are faithless?
- Jacob eventually wrestles with God in *Genesis 32*. What do you think God is teaching Jacob through that encounter?
 - Why might the blessing come with a limp?

- How does Jacob's story point us toward our need for Jesus?
 - Where do you see in the story both human effort and God's grace?

Living It OUT

- Where are you most tempted to trust God's "what" but not His "when"?
 - For you, what does impatience look like in that area?
- Where are you most tempted to trust God's goal but not His method?
 - What would obedience look like if you refused to do the wrong thing to accomplish the right thing?
- Jacob's deception brought years of pain he did not have to carry. What are some ways sin can seem useful or successful at first, but eventually turn burdensome?
 - How have you seen that happen in real life?
- *Matthew 11:28-30* describes Jesus' yoke as easy and His burden as light. How is that different from the burden of trying to control everything yourself?
 - What would it look like this week to rest in Him instead of wrestling for control?
- Jacob ~~walked~~ limped away changed. What kind of change do you hope God is forming in you right now?
 - How can this group pray for you as you learn to trust Him?

Lifting it UP

- Praise God for being both a promise maker and a promise keeper.
- Confess to God and each other the places where you're tempted to rush His timing.
- Ask God to help you continue trust in Him!