

## A. SERMON SLIDES

Slide 1: Title

Finding Oneself

Genesis 32:22-32

Slide 2:

Genesis 32:22–27 (ESV)

The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob."

Slide 3:

Genesis 32:28–32 (ESV)

Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip. Therefore to this day the people of Israel do not eat the sinew of the thigh that is on the hip socket, because he touched the socket of Jacob's hip on the sinew of the thigh.

Slide 4:

The Story of Jacob

Slide 5:

Crisis of Faith

(No Way Out)

II. Israel

III. Holy Gid Hanasheh

Slide 7:

Penuel

"Face to Face"

Slide 8:

"Things have come to a pretty pass when religion is allowed to invade public life."

Lord Melbourne

Slide 9:

Genesis 33:20 (ESV)

20 There he erected an altar and called it El-Elohe-Israel.

Slide 10:

Israel

"Strives with God"

Slide 11:

When God refuses to be used or ignored

Slide 12:

"I will not let go until you bless me" =

"I'd rather die than to live anymore without healing"

"Healing" = Who Am I!?

Slide 13:

We must strive with (wrestle) God for identity, but must we all have a severe moment of breaking?

Slide 14:

"When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob..."

Slide 15:

Slide 16:

Dietary Restriction

"Therefore to this day the people of Israel do not eat the sinew of the thigh that is on the hip socket, because he touched the socket of Jacob's hip on the sinew of the thigh."

Slide 17:

Both God and Jacob win through weakness

Slide 18:

Hebrews 11:21 (ESV)

By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff.

## **B. GROUP DISCUSSION**

1. Read Genesis 32:22-32. So what is going on here? Explain what happened in your own words. Do you have any questions for the text?
2. Jacob had always believed in God, but had never had a transforming personal experience with God. Do you think that is dangerous? How does that get reconciled?  
Why is that a more prevalent issue with children raised in a home of faith?
3. Have you ever had a "crisis of faith?" Explain what you think that is, and how you came through that time?
4. What are some things that we cannot get from anywhere, or anyone...and must get it from God Himself?
5. What does it look like to "wrestle" God for an identity? To be wounded and healed? To be stronger and weaker? Have you experienced, or are you experiencing this?
6. Prayer and Praise