

Message Notes | Mission Builders

Part 5: Whatever Comes Next

Genesis 32

→ we don't know exactly what will come next – **Prov 27:1**

#1 We may not know what tomorrow holds, but we don't have to fear what tomorrow brings.

→ Jacob returns to Canaan - **vs. 1-8**

→ Jacob prays - **vs. 9-12**

#2 When you don't know what comes next, remember who God is.

→ planning vs. controlling – **vs. 13-21**

#3 When we try to control what only God can control, we carry a weight we were never meant to carry.

→ God wrestles with Jacob – **vs. 22-26**

#4 Hold on to the One who holds the future.

→ we have been blessed through Jesus - **vs. 27-29**

Group Questions | Mission Builders

Part 5: Whatever Comes Next

Genesis 32

1. In the sermon, we talked about how none of us really knows what tomorrow will bring. What are some situations or seasons of life when uncertainty can be especially difficult? Why do you think not knowing what comes next can create so much anxiety?
2. **Read Genesis 32:1-12.** Jacob was understandably afraid when he heard Esau was approaching with 400 men. What stands out to you about the way Jacob prayed? What can we learn from his prayer about approaching God when we're facing an uncertain future?
3. **When you don't know what comes next, remember who God is.** What are some specific truths about God's character or promises that give you confidence when life feels uncertain? How can we become better at remembering those truths when we need them most?
4. **Read Genesis 32:13-21.** After praying, Jacob made elaborate plans to prepare for his encounter with Esau. We talked about the difference between planning and controlling. How would you describe that difference? What are some areas of life where responsible planning can easily turn into an unhealthy desire for control?
5. **Read Genesis 32:24-26.** God allowed Jacob to wrestle all night before demonstrating just how limited Jacob's strength really was. What do you think God was teaching Jacob through this experience?
6. **Read Genesis 32:27-28.** Despite Jacob's history of deception and self-reliance, God still blessed him. How does God's treatment of Jacob point us to the grace we have in Jesus? How does knowing that your identity and future are secure because of Jesus change the way you face uncertainty?
7. **Hold on to the One who holds the future.** As you think about your own life, what is one situation or outcome you've been trying especially hard to control? What would it practically look like to surrender that outcome to God while still being responsible with what he's entrusted to you?