

# GENESIS 33

“CHANGED BY GOD”

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE



LET'S TALK!

## #1 GOD CAN CHANGE ANYONE + ANYTHING AT ANY TIME

- Read Genesis 33:1-7. Why was Jacob afraid to meet Esau (see Genesis 27:41-42 and 32:6-7)?
- Why did Jacob bow to the ground and what was Esau's response to his brother?
- Why is the reunion between Jacob and Esau so powerful and what does it reveal?
- Why is it important to remember that God can change any heart and any circumstance?

## #2 GOD WILL ALWAYS BE CHANGING US

- Look at Genesis 33:8-17. Why does Jacob offer Esau gifts? Is this a good or bad thing?
- What does Jacob mean in Genesis 31:10?
- How does Jacob show some dishonesty in Genesis 33:12-14?
- What is sanctification and why must we understand that God will forever be changing/growing us until we get to heaven?

## #3 GOD OFTEN CHANGES US THROUGH OUR FAILURES + WEAKNESS

- Read Genesis 33:18-20. Why was it wrong for Jacob to settle in Shechem? Where should he have settled and why (see Genesis 31:13, 28:20-22 and 35:1)?
- Why is partial obedience to God disobedience?
- Jacob means "cheat" or "supplanter" and Israel means "God rules/conquers." God changed Jacob's name in Genesis 32:28 but throughout the rest of Genesis, Jacob is still called "Jacob" twice as much as Israel." Why is this significant and what does it reveal?
- Ponder and discuss this quote from J.I. Packer, "The nature of Jacob's 'prevailing' with God was simply that he held on to God while God weakened him, and wrought in him the spirit of submission and self-distrust; that he had desired God's blessing so much that he clung to God through all the painful humbling, till he came low enough for God to raise him up speaking peace to him and assuring him that he need not fear."
- Check out 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. How and why is God best glorified in our weakness?