



What's Your Name?  
Genesis 32:22 - 32

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1. **The miracle of inner change \_\_\_\_\_ that we face up to ourselves honestly.**

*<sup>26</sup> Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak." But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." <sup>27</sup> The man asked him, "What is your name?" "Jacob," he answered.*

2. **When we face up to ourselves honestly, we're able to experience God's \_\_\_\_\_ fully.**

*<sup>7</sup> In great fear and distress Jacob divided the people who were with him into two groups, and the flocks and herds and camels as well. <sup>8</sup> He thought, "If Esau comes and attacks one group, the group that is left may escape." ... <sup>11</sup> Save me, I pray, from the hand of my brother Esau, for I am afraid he will come and attack me, and also the mothers with their children.*

**Consider: Why was Jacob in crisis?**

<sup>22</sup>That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup>After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. <sup>24</sup>So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. <sup>25</sup>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.

**3. The miracle of inner change leads to a new identity because through the process God gives you and me a new \_\_\_\_\_!**

<sup>28</sup>Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome." <sup>29</sup>Jacob said, "Please tell me your name." But he replied, "Why do you ask my name?" Then he blessed him there.

➤ **We are God's beloved! That is our true name, our deepest identity, our divine calling.**

<sup>1</sup>See what **great love the Father has lavished on us**, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. (1 John 3:1)

**THE MAIN POINT:**

**The truth of the gospel is that each one of us deeply loved, accepted, and forgiven by God in Jesus Christ.**

**ANSWERING GOD'S QUESTION...**

- This week, ask God to reveal the Jacob that lives in you. Then take some quiet time to share the truth of who you are with God.
- Remember that God wants to bless you. Do not be shy about asking for this blessing from God. Begin to live expectantly that God will bless you so that you can be a blessing to others.
- Listen closely for God's whisper of the Spirit within you, telling you that you are God's beloved. Begin to imagine yourself before Christ on the cross and as he looks at you, listen for these words, "You are God's beloved. Look at my cross. See how much you are loved, accepted, and forgiven. Your name is written in the palms of my hands and in my heart."



***Doggy Bag:*** *Something to Chew On and Ponder Throughout the Week Ahead*

1. How do you feel about your name? What is the story behind your name?
2. In what ways can you identify with Jacob?
3. What kind of inner change do you want God to bless you with?
4. What does it mean for you that your new name is "God's beloved"?