

Small Group Discussion Guide

Jacob Wrestles With God

Icebreaker:

- What is (or was) your nickname? How did you get it?

Read: Genesis 32:22-32

1. Why do you think God chose to wrestle with Jacob

a) to show Jacob God's strength b) to show Jacob his own strength c) to see how much Jacob wanted to be blessed d) to correct Jacob's life-long pattern of struggling with people and God

2. Why do you think God wrenched Jacob's hip?

a) to humble Jacob b) as a reminder of God's power. c) as a reminder of God's favor and faithfulness. d) because pain brings people closer to God

3. How can you relate to this story?

a) Taking big steps like Jacob did has resulted in some loss of stability and security for me b) The fact that Jacob's strong-willed nature and persistence was rewarded gives me hope c) I struggle with giving God control over an area of my life d) I'm encouraged that Jacob, with all his faults, was blessed

4. How have you discovered who you are?

a) through struggle b) through pain c) through God's blessing d) through disappointment e) through disabilities

5. What is one struggle you have had that you can see has resulted in some good. How did it help you to grow spiritually?

6. What are you "wrestling" with now?

a) God. b) fear. c) the past. d) a person e) a decision f) other

7. Where are you in your "wrestling match" with God?

a) still fighting. b) injured, but still struggling c) bargaining d) limping e) fully surrendered

8. How can this group pray for you and help you in your struggles?