

You Don't Have To Stay The Same!

Pastor Ken Ritz * Apr 7, 2013 * New Life Vineyard Church

Genesis 32:3-31

The Story Of Jacob Wrestling With God

4 PHASES GOD USES TO CHANGE ME

1. A CRISIS: I Struggle _____

So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. 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.

Genesis 32:24-26

Even in the womb, Jacob struggled with his brother; when he became a man, he even fought with God. Yes, he wrestled with the angel and won. He wept and pleaded for a blessing from him. There at Bethel he met God face to face, and God spoke to him.
Hosea 12:3-4 NLT

2. A COMMITMENT: I Make _____

"Then the man said, 'Let me go, for it is daybreak.' But Jacob replied, 'I will not let you go unless you bless me!'"

Genesis 32:26

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Galatians 6:9

3. A CONFESSION: I Am _____

"The man asked him, 'What is your name?' Jacob' he answered."
Genesis 32:27

Jacob = "deceiver (manipulator)"

4. A CONVERSION: I'm Given A _____

"Then the man said, 'Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel... Then he blessed him there. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'It is because I saw God face to face...'"
Genesis 32:28

Israel - "Prince with God"

- A new identity
- A blessing
- A reminder

"The sun rose above Jacob as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip."
Genesis 32:31

"If anyone belongs to Christ, they are a new creation. The old things have gone; everything is made new!"
2 Corinthians 5:7 (NCV)

Personal Questions

- In what areas are you struggling with God?
- In what areas have you felt like giving up?
- What do you need to admit about yourself?
- Will you let Christ give you a new identity?

**All scriptures from TNIV unless otherwise noted*