

AT HOME WEEKLY

Elementary (1st-6th)

Week of February 17-February 23

Sunday, we covered Genesis 32:22-32. This is the story of Jacob and God's endless pursuit of Jacob and his profound plans for Jacob, even though Jacob does not at all deserve God's love and forgiveness. God pursued him to the point of wrestling him for an entire night.

In Genesis 27, Isaac's younger son, Jacob, used disguise and deception to take what his brother, Esau, thought was his rightful blessing. After deceiving his father with the help of his mother (who favored him over Esau), Jacob ran away from home in fear that Esau might seek vengeance for not receiving the blessing (vv. 41-43). Years later, Jacob was forced to face Esau. Meeting Esau brought Jacob to a place of intense desperation (Genesis 32:7) and his desperation brought him to prayer (vv. 9-12). It was in this moment of deep fear and distress that God came to meet Jacob in a way he never expected.

"So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak" (v. 24). On the eve of meeting Esau, Jacob had a surprising encounter with someone he at first thought was a random man, but then realized was God Himself in human form. The night before Jacob faced Esau, He wrestled with God. Jacob found out this was more than a mere man by his ability to put Jacob's hip out of place by a simple touch. There was more going on than what Jacob initially thought. Realizing that, Jacob was determined to make the most of this opportunity.

"Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome" (v. 28). Upon understanding his opponent was God in human form, Jacob held onto him and didn't let go. Before, he used deception to get his father's blessing, but now he was determined to receive an untainted blessing from God (see v. 26). In an act of immense kindness, God gave Jacob (whose name meant "usurper or supplanter") a new name: "Israel" (the one who strives with God). No longer would Jacob be known as one who takes over for another, but as the one who strives with God and man and who overcame. He received the blessing of a new identity.

God was relentless in his pursuit of Jacob, and he is relentless in his pursuit of us as well, even to the point of Jesus dying on the cross to save us from our sin. Our response is to go to the true source of blessing, God himself, not to others or ourselves

as Jacob did. Our response is also that we allow our imperfections to remind us of the blessing of God's grace and forgiveness.

Characteristics we have covered so far: God is Creator. God is Redeemer. God is Just. God is Mercy. God Sees Me. God is provider. God is Relentless.

What You Can Do At Home This Week:

- Your child came home with a memory verse to work on:

2 Corinthians 5:21

21 For our sake he made him to be
sin who knew no sin, so that in him
we might become the righteousness
of God.

- Your child was also asked to memorize the names of the first ten books of the Bible. (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel)

- 5th-6th graders were given a bookmark with a Genesis reading plan. Help your child set aside time each day to complete the reading. If they'd like to, offer to read it with them. Your child will prioritize time in the Bible if you do. Lead by example. It's how kids learn best, by doing what they see you do.

***WE WRAP UP THIS SERIES WITH A REMEMBER
AND CELEBRATE DAY ON MARCH 3RD. On that
day, we would like to see your child have the verse
and books memorized.***



GENESIS

DAY SCRIPTURE

1	▶ 1:1–2:3
2	▶ 3:1–24
3	▶ 4:1–26
4	▶ 5:1–32
5	▶ 6:1–22
6	▶ 7:1–24
7	▶ 8:1–22
8	▶ 9:1–29
9	▶ 10:1–32
10	▶ 11:1–32
11	▶ 12:1–9; 13:1–18
12	▶ 15:1–21
13	▶ 16:1–16; 18:1–15
14	▶ 21:1–21
15	▶ 22:1–18
16	▶ 23:1–20
17	▶ 24:1–21
18	▶ 24:22–51
19	▶ 24:52–66
20	▶ 25:1–34
21	▶ 29:31–30:24
22	▶ 32:1–32
23	▶ 33:1–20
24	▶ 37:1–36
25	▶ 39:1–21
26	▶ 41:1–24
27	▶ 41:25–40
28	▶ 41:41–54
29	▶ 42:1–38
30	▶ 43:1–34
31	▶ 44:1–34
32	▶ 45:1–28
33	▶ 48:1–22
34	▶ 49:29–50:14
35	▶ 50:15–26



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