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JACOB

Jacob means “supplanter”.



Jacob wrestled his twin brother
Esau **in the womb**.

Jacob wrestled the **birthright** away
from Esau with a pot of stew.

Jacob wrestled the **blessing** away
from his father Isaac.



Jacob wrestled with his uncle, Laban.

Genesis 32:22-32 (NIV)

²² 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. ²³ After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. ²⁴ So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak.

Genesis 32:22-32 (NIV)

²⁵ 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. ²⁶ 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 32:22-32 (NIV)

²⁷ The man asked him, “What is your name?” “Jacob,” he answered. ²⁸ 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.” ²⁹ Jacob said, “Please tell me your name.” But he replied, “Why do you ask my name?” Then he blessed him there.

Genesis 32:22-32 (NIV)

³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared.” ³¹ The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip. ³² Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the tendon attached to the socket of the hip, because the socket of Jacob’s hip was touched near the tendon.

Jacob was transformed
from the inside out.





How does God use the struggles
we wrestle with to transform us?



**HE BREAKS OUR
SELF-RELIANCE**



Genesis 32:22-24 (NIV)

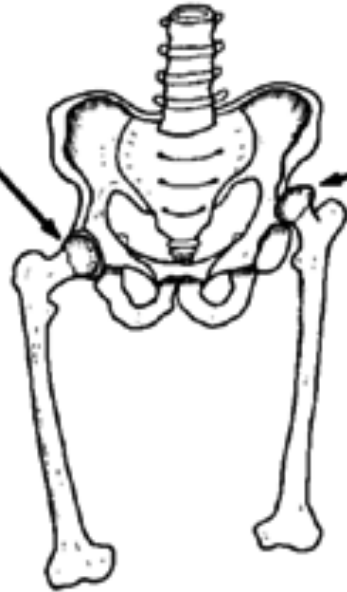
²² That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. ²⁴ So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak.

Genesis 32:25 (NIV)

²⁵ 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.

NORMAL HIP:

The round head of the thigh bone is *inside* the hip socket.



DISLOCATED HIP:

The head of the thigh bone often lies *above* the socket.



God shows Jacob, once and for all, that
human effort can never overpower God.



Genesis 32:26 (NIV)

²⁶ Then the man said, “Let me go, for it is daybreak.” But Jacob replied, “I will not let you go unless you bless me.”

When Jacob was broken,
he held on to God more tightly than he
had ever held on to anything else.

Before God can use us powerfully,
He often has to bring us to the end of
our self-reliance, where we learn
to depend on Him.

Genesis 32:31 (NIV)

³¹ The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip.

Genesis 32:32 (NIV)

³² Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the tendon attached to the socket of the hip, because the socket of Jacob's hip was touched near the tendon.

BADGE OF GRACE

2 Corinthians 12:8-9(NIV)

⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹ But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.

How does God use the struggles
we wrestle with to transform us?



**HE BREAKS OUR
SELF-RELIANCE**



**HE CHANGES OUR
IDENTITY**



Genesis 32:27 (NIV)

²⁷ The man asked him, “What is your name?”
“Jacob,” he answered.

Genesis 32:28 (NIV)

²⁸ 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.”

Israel means “one who strives with God”
or “one who prevails with God”.

Romans 7:19 (NIV)

¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.

If God doesn't change your circumstances,
He will change you.



How does God use the struggles we wrestle with to transform us?



How does God use the struggles we wrestle with to transform us?

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Romans 3:23 (NIVUK)

²³ for **all** have sinned and fall short of the
glory of God,

Romans 6:23 (NIVUK)

²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 3:16 (NIVUK)

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

What is it that you are struggling with?



יַבֹּק (Yabboq) Jabbok =
to empty out; to pour out; to wrestle

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