



Tri-Village Sermon Discussion Questions

Topic: *Wrestling with Yourself*

Text: Genesis 32:1-32

Service Date: June 8, 2025

Note: The questions are only a starting point for discussion. Don't hesitate to modify, adapt, or highlight only specific ones to fit your group and/or personal study.

Getting Started

- Since your group met last, are there any life updates or God-working moments you can share? (It doesn't have to be exciting but a simple thing.)
- Jacob was the younger brother to Esau. Growing up, were you the oldest, middle, youngest, or only child in your family? If you had siblings, did you perceive your parents treating the others different? If you were an only child, did you ever wonder what it'd be like to have a brother or sister?

Sermon Discussion

- Unresolved conflict can be disastrous for anyone involved in the relationship. Hurt feelings may even turn into scars that last a lifetime. Have you ever known or experienced unresolved conflict? What happened and did it/has it remain(ed) permanently unresolved?
- Jacob initially had to take around a 500-mile journey to avoid Esau's anger. Why do some individuals go to such extreme lengths to avoid conflict?
- Which one of the following would describe your personality related to unresolved conflict:
 - >It's on! I believe it's my job to take control of the situation.
 - >Say "I'm sorry" in hopes of bringing about a resolution, even if it's not your fault.
 - >Find the quickest solution even if it's not a resolution.
 - >Prove your point at all costs.
 - >Ignore or delay the conversation, either hoping it'll work out or resolve itself.
 - >Get others to sympathize with you.
 - >Something else.

- As Matt Hayden noted, “Sin builds and can become habit, an infection.” At what point do you think unresolved conflict can turn into sin?
- The first step in seeking a “crosspoint” in a relationship is to cry out to God. When we pray about a conflict or tense situation with another person, how should we pray? Is there a specific way that would resemble how Jesus prayed and then how He acted?
- “Conduct needs to change.” Unfortunately, even if one person wants the situation to improve, it takes both individuals working toward a common goal for the relationship to improve. If you’ve ever been someone who did everything to improve a relationship but the other person didn’t want the same outcome, what was the result?
- Humility is something for which every Christ-follower must strive but an area that can be difficult. We can easily judge others before we do an internal, spiritual audit. Why is it important for us to strive daily to be humble instead of judging others?
- How can you grow in your faith when God’s not working in the way you think He should? Do you believe that sometimes He may be working to change you in the process- even if it’s not pleasant?
- At the end of the sermon, Matt discussed a name change. Think about where you were before you had a relationship with Jesus. Talk for a moment in your group about how Jesus has changed your life (before you had Jesus in your life vs. after).
- Who can you be praying for this week that Jesus would change their life?

Have you or someone in your group experienced a Story of Life Change?

We’d love to hear about it! In fact, one of Tri-Village’s values is “Stories of Life Change”. Visit tri-village.org/yourstory and share how God worked.