

TO GO

1. Who do you know that is particularly competitive? Describe what you admire about them and how our competitive nature can cause us to miss God's best.
2. Read Genesis 32:1–21. In what ways does God signal his presence and protection for Jacob? How does Jacob respond positively? In what ways do we see that for Jacob, his old habits still die hard?
3. Reflect on your own struggles with old habits. Why are they so hard to break, and why is it important to recognize their continued influence in our walk with God?
4. Spend time reflecting on Jacob's prayer in Genesis 32:9–12. What elements of his prayer could be applicable to your own prayer life?
5. Read Genesis 32:22–29. Explain why it is significant that Jacob is alone at this point in the story. Describe Jacob's natural scrappiness and what you observe about "the man" he wrestles with, confirming this was more than just a man.
6. Discuss the significance of the man asking for Jacob's name and then giving him a new name. How has knowing God reshaped your identity on your journey?
7. Read Genesis 32:30–32. How does Jacob reflect a new sense of identity and purpose here? How does victory now look to him?
8. Consider the two keys to God's gameplan as represented in this text. In what ways do you need to embrace that losing is winning and that weakness is strength? How are you trying to manage your life in ways that are like Jacob's old patterns? In what way is God trying to get your attention? What evidence of brokenness has God allowed in your life to remind you of your need (think dislocated hip)? How can you now operate in light of that brokenness?
9. In what ways do you need to "stick, submit, and start again"? Confess this to God and ask for His help.