

## the struggle | *wrestling with life*

### ***When Life Punches Back***

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Genesis 32:22-32, v 25

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***Introduction:*** You struggle. I struggle. Life is a struggle. The struggle of life can exhaust and diminish and confound and embitter us. But there's another struggle too. There's a struggle with the one who made us and loves us and wants to give us life. The question for Lent is: What am I struggling with? Am I struggling with the darkness, or am I struggling with the one who will show me the face of God?

***Prayer:*** We pray that this text will help with our adversity in life. Amen

***Review:*** What are you struggling with? What does God want you to struggle with?

***Read:*** Genesis 32:22-32, v 25

### ***Discussion:***

1. Why did the man change his action with Jacob?
2. What was the effect of the man's action? Any thoughts on the particular nature of the action?
3. Did Jacob give up in the face of his physical adversity? If not, why not?
4. Did Jacob change his action following his hip being wrenched? Do you continue to "wrestle" when faced with adversity?

***Application:*** Do not let life "pushing back" against your faith hinder you this week.

***Prayer:*** Father, we are grateful for the example of Jacob continuing to wrestle with the man.  
Amen