

the struggle | *wrestling with life*

When Defeat is the True Victory

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Genesis 32:22-32, v 26

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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: Father, help us to understand the interaction between Jacob and the man in this text (v26). Amen

Review: Did you gain new perspective on adversity from the sermon last week?

Read: Genesis 32:22-32, v 26

Discussion:

1. Was the man giving up wrestling with Jacob? Why?
2. Does daybreak have any significance for us as we wrestle with God?
3. Why did Jacob ask for a blessing instead of other possible actions from the man?
See Hosea 12:4.
4. Is God's blessing bigger/better than an answer to specific prayers? Explain.

Application: Ask for God's blessing as you pray (wrestle) this week.

Prayer: Father, thank you for the example of Jacob continuing to wrestle with the man until daybreak.