



Title | A River Runs Through It

Text | Genesis 32

By | Todd Mathis

Date | July 18, 2022

Sermon Notes

Genesis 32:24–32

²⁴Then Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak.

²⁵When he saw that he had not prevailed against him, he touched the socket of his thigh; so the socket of Jacob's thigh was dislocated while he wrestled with him.

²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the dawn is breaking." But he said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

²⁷So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob."

²⁸He said, "Your name shall no longer be Jacob, but Israel; for you have striven with God and with men and have prevailed."

²⁹Then Jacob asked him and said, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And he blessed him there.

³⁰So Jacob named the place Peniel, for he said, "I have seen God face to face, yet my life has been preserved."

³¹Now the sun rose upon him just as he crossed over Penuel, and he was limping on his thigh.

³²Therefore, to this day the sons of Israel do not eat the sinew of the hip which is on the socket of the thigh, because he touched the socket of Jacob's thigh in the sinew of the hip. (NASB95)

Big Idea:

Genesis 32:28 He said, "Your name shall no longer be Jacob, but Israel; for you have striven with God and with men and have prevailed."

Text questions during the sermon: 623-850-8809

For Reflection & Application:

Monday:

- Can you use your time with God to offer your heart fully to God to describe what is going on around you or with you, and the personal and emotional impact? Do you have hard relationships that you have played a part in? Read Psalm 139.

Tuesday:

- Is it hard for you to fully accept that we are a new creation in Christ, or do you feel that you have to work or perform or get results to become acceptable to God? Read 2 Corinthians 5.

Wednesday:

- Jacob had a pattern of self-centered approaches in relationships. Do you have difficult relationships where you may have contributed? Can you pray about your contribution and ask for God's forgiveness? Read 1 John 1-2.

Thursday:

- Do you have an opportunity reach out to this person to share that you own how you may have hurt them or worked against them? Pray and ask for God to give you wisdom on the right heart, tone, and genuine interest in relating to the other person. 1 John 2, 4.

Friday:

- If you have relationships with high trust, how could you make them more intentional or consistent in order to experience the fruit of those close relationships? Read Colossians 3; Ephesians 4.

Daily Prayer:

Father, we are broken and needy people who look to You for the forgiveness and strength to live in these difficult days. We often get sidetracked with our own interests and priorities. Give us the wisdom to see that our defeats can open the door to new growth in our lives. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.