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STEWARDSHIP SERIES:

PRAYER

GENESIS 32:22-32

PASTOR ISAAC TAN

²² The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. ²⁴ And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day.

Genesis 32: 22 - 32

²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

Genesis 32: 22 - 32

²⁷ And he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.” ²⁸ Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.”

Genesis 32: 22 - 32

²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered.”

Genesis 32: 22 - 31

³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip. ³² Therefore to this day the people of Israel do not eat the sinew of the thigh that is on the hip socket, because he touched the socket of Jacob's hip on the sinew of the thigh.

Genesis 32: 22 - 32



Home is an empty dream

Lost to the night

Father, I feel so alone

You promised you'd be there

Whenever I needed you

Whenever I call your name

You're not anywhere

I'm trying to hold on

but it's not what I need

Background:

“O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O Lord...

Please deliver me from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau, for I fear him, that he may come and attack me, the mothers with the children...’

Genesis 32: 9 - 11

Background:

Please deliver me from the hand of my brother...
But **YOU** said, 'I will surely do you good, and make your offspring as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.'"

Genesis 32: 11 - 12

Prayer is not a monologue, but it
is a dialogue.

In the presence of God, we find that:

1. We are not isolated but embraced
2. We are not consumed but renewed
3. We are constrained but reliant

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Genesis 32: 22 - 32

It was at Jacob's lowest and most dire point that God met him.

Despite of all of our
shortcomings, all our
wrongdoings and all of what has
happened to us,

God still meets us.

Take everything away and what
are we? We are still loved by God.

Jacob was struggling and wrestling for his life. But little did he know that he was wrestling with the One who *gave* him life.

With every struggle and every
hurdle that we face, we face it
WITH the Giver of life.

When we approach God in
prayer, He is already by our side.

But rather, how is it that Jacob
wasn't **immediately destroyed**
and overwhelmed by God?

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Genesis 32: 22 - 32

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Genesis 32: 22 - 31

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What is *your* **name**?

When we come before God, we see who we **really** are. We cannot hide from Him.

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Genesis 32: 22 - 32

Part of being renewed is to come
face to face with our mistakes.

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Part of being renewed is also to
be forgiven.

Jacob would no longer fight for himself, but he had a God who would fight for him.

The struggle with God and the transformation of our hearts is **more important, more crucial,** than the disappearing of problems.

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It was for Jacob to remember God's grace and rely on His faithfulness



