

Forgiveness: Release. Reset. Renew

Genesis 33:1-11

The story of Jacob's family fills the last 25 chapters of Genesis. In a dramatic and suspense filled encounter he meets his brother.

1. People—two or more people in **relationship**
2. Pain—often deep **wounds** , caused by words or actions
Esau sold his birthright (Gen. 25:29-34; see Heb. 12:16)
Jacob stole Esau's **blessing** (Gen. 27)
3. Preparation—Jacob plans for the worst (32:7-8)
4. Prayer—Jacob asks God to keep his **promises** (32:9-12)
5. Peril—things could go badly between them
6. Posture of **humility** —his entire family “*bowed down*”
7. Completely unexpected outcome
The last we heard from Esau (see Gen. 27:41)
Finding “*favor*” instead of disfavor; **un** grace
Forgiveness is “*like seeing the face of God*”
God's character (Exodus 34:6-7; Eph. 4:32)
The father's welcome of the prodigal son (Luke 15:20)
8. Telling others about God's **blessings** in your life

Some application questions:

- Who do you need to pray about meeting with?
- What preparations might you make in advance of meeting?
- How can you demonstrate humility when you meet together?
- What do you want from them? Favor? Forgiveness? Other?
- Who will you tell how God blessed you this past week?

New Fall Sermon series begins today!

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Sept 19	Jacob and Esau (Gen. 32 and 33)
Sept 26	Joseph (Gen. 50)
Oct 03	Psalms 103
Oct 10	Solomon's prayer (2 Chron. 6 and 7)
Oct 17	The Lord's prayer (Luke 11 and Matt. 6)
Oct 24	The Pharisee and publican (Luke 18:9-14)
Oct 31	Jesus on the cross (Luke 23:34)
Nov 07	Jesus commissions his disciples (Luke 24)
Nov 14	Paul's instructions (Col. 3:13)
Nov 21	Satan's strategic scheme (2 Cor. 2:5-11)

Also, on Sunday, October 17th (our church's 70th birthday) we will begin a special 40 days focus with the devotional guide “Forgiven to Forgive.”

This is intended for the whole church as individuals and families can read each day's devotion together. These booklets will cost \$2.50 or a donation or free!

