

### THE SANDALS OF READINESS

*Genesis 32:22-32*

#### MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. PEACE WITH GOD BEGINS WITH ACCEPTING THAT WE'VE BEEN FIGHTING WITH GOD
2. PEACE WITH GOD COMES AFTER A STRUGGLE WITH GOD
3. PEACE WITH GOD IS ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE WEAKNESS OF GOD

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick two or three of these to talk about as a group

1. What was most helpful for you from this week's message? Why?
2. This week we looked at the sandals of readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. Footwear was essential in warfare for navigating the battlefield with skill. Ephesians 4:15 is saying that if you understand how the Gospel is a Gospel of peace, it will bring a kind of spiritual readiness into your life that will enable you to handle the twists and turns of life with all the skill of a highly trained athlete. What area of life do you feel like you could use some help navigating right now?
3. Like Jacob, we all believe we know how our lives are supposed to go. Bitterness is believing that God got things wrong; anxiety is believing that God might not get things right. And discontentment is believing there's a better life for you besides the one God has you in. Where do you see bitterness, anxiety or discontentment in your own life? How does this help shed light on the ways you are fighting with God?
4. The reason that Jacob had a wrestling match with God instead of just a nice chat is because the human heart doesn't learn any of the major lessons of life by being told. What implications does this have for you as you follow Jesus? What implications does this have for you as you hope to teach others? Do you have any personal examples of having to learn through struggle?
5. God only wounds us in order to heal us. When have you felt wounded by God? Has healing come from this wound yet or are you still in the waiting stage?
6. What are some ways that the story of Jacob points us to Jesus?

**A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU:** Peace with God is only possible because He voluntarily made Himself weak, endured the cross and was crushed on our behalf so that we could be blessed.