

SERIES TITLE: Disguised

PART 7: GOD'S GRACE

TEXT: GENESIS 33

INTRODUCTION.

Genesis follows the work of God, moving from creation, to the entrance of sin, to judgment, to the selection of a family through which the nations will be blessed. The promises of God to Abraham were passed to Isaac, and now to his son Jacob. His story takes up half of the book of Genesis. Jacob is not an admirable character, but God is gracious.

DISCUSSION.

Describe a time you were given a gift far more significant or valuable than you ever expected or imagined. How did you respond?

EXAMINATION.

33:1-3 Which details show Jacob has changed and how has he not changed?

33:4-11 What differences do you notice between how Jacob and Esau describe their lives?

What do you think Jacob means that seeing Esau's face is like seeing the face of God? V.10 Is it connected to his wrestling match from the night before? Is it about receiving grace from Esau just as he experienced from God? Or something else?

33:12-20 Why do you think Jacob doesn't go with Esau?

Why does Jacob go to Succoth and Shechem instead of Bethel?

Why is Jacob still deceiving and scheming even after his face-to-face encounter with God?

APPLICATION.

- How has God's grace changed your outlook when it comes to facing the fears and struggles of life?
- What are signs that you are growing in grace as 2 Peter 3:18 calls us to do?

- How does God's grace empower you to reconcile relationships? (Consider Ephesians 4:32; 1 John 4:20; Hebrews 12:14-15)
- How do we apply the message of God's gracious forgiveness without using it as an excuse to sin? Consult Romans 6.
- In what way is grace not permission to sin, but power to overcome sin?
- How can we guard against falling into our default sinful behavior?
- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?