

In **Genesis 32**, **Jacob** wrestles with God through the night. This isn't a holy hero moment—it's a breaking point. Jacob's whole life had been scheming, striving, manipulating to get what he wanted. His name literally meant "deceiver."

And yet, God meets him in the struggle.

God asks, "What is your name?" Not because He doesn't know—but because Jacob needs to finally be honest about who he's been. When Jacob owns it, God gives him a new name: Israel—one who strives *with* God, not against Him.

Here's the hope for us: **God often does His best work with the worst people.**

Not the polished. Not the put-together. The honest. The worn-down. The ones who finally stop pretending.

If God can work through a deceiver like Jacob, He can work through you—right where you are. The long shifts. The family strain. The quiet stuff no one else sees. Your past doesn't disqualify you. Your weakness doesn't cancel God's calling.

Prayer: God, I'm tired of striving on my own. I bring You my mess, my fear, my failures. Help me stop fighting You—and start walking with You. Amen.

One thought for today: Stop striving alone. Let God meet you in the struggle.

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