

# Study QUESTIONS

## Ep.1367: What Happens When We Wrestle With God?

<https://christianquestions.com/character/1367-wrestle-with-god/>

See:  CQ.Rewind  
SHOW NOTES

1. What is Jacob's "back story"? How did Esau lose his birthright? How did Jacob supplant Esau to receive the blessing from Isaac? Why didn't Esau value his birthright? Describe the consequence to Rebekah and Jacob from this deception. What were the consequences to Jacob and Laban from their mutual deceptions? (Genesis 25:23-34, 27:27-45, Deuteronomy 21:17, Hebrews 12:16)
2. Have you ever used deception to push a result that was for a good purpose? Did you gain a blessing? Did you reap a consequence? How do you feel now about what you did and the result?
3. What angelic event happened as Jacob left his parents', Isaac and Rebekah's, home? What was the promise given at the end of the event? Why was this promise significant?
4. How did Jacob prepare for meeting Esau as he returned to Canaan after 20 years? Why was he so cautious? What angelic event happened as he returned? What did Jacob's persistence earn him? (Genesis 28:10-15, 32:1-12, 24-28)
5. What other kinds of "wrestling" did Jacob experience in his lifetime?
6. Why did God change Jacob's name to "Israel"? Why did Jacob finally let go of the angel? How did his persistence help him deal with Esau? How did he approach his brother? Explain whether the reunion went as expected. (Genesis 32:24-31, 33:1-4)
7. Have you had experiences or times in your life when you "wrestled" with God? Does Jacob's tenacity in clinging to the angel even though he did not have a glimmer of hope he could win the battle or even see a way through the difficulty, speak to you? In what way?
8. Do you ever get to the point of despair as Jacob did, with no clear path to follow? What did Jacob gain by holding onto the angel? What can we gain through continuing to ask for God to find us? (Psalm 88:1-17)
9. Ultimately, Jacob's wrestling with circumstances throughout his life caused him to grow into someone God could work with. What is the promise reiterated in Genesis 35:9-12?
10. Can you recognize your own wrestling with God over your insecurities and the darker circumstances in your life where it is hard to find God? What growth in Christ have you seen in yourself through these experiences? What do you need to do in order to "rest in your wrestling," holding onto the Father until the "morning" breaks, when you can see His answer and the blessing He has arranged for you?

Rest in God, tenaciously hold onto His promises. His compassion is much larger, much deeper than we can comprehend. The morning will reveal a far greater purpose for us than we could ever imagine!