

# Don't Miss Him Fight for the Blessing

**Jesus longs for us to *mature* so He can bless us (Genesis 32:22-32).** Though God blesses humanity in countless ways just because of who He is, the blessings that satisfy the deeper longings of our hearts (e.g. for peace, joy, confidence, etc.) must be wrestled for. Just as Jacob wrestled Jesus – in what Biblical scholars call an Old Testament Christophany – and received His blessing, the way we wrestle for blessing is by living in obedience, by knowing and living out the ways of God. The greatest blessings from God do not always lead to immediate ease, comfort, or convenience. Instead, the greatest blessings come when we can experience the presence of God, see His face, and know Him profoundly within our hearts.

## GET THINGS STARTED

What is one accomplishment or blessing you have experienced because you wrestled and worked diligently for it? What was the goal, and what was your condition in the beginning? What did you learn and mature in to accomplish that goal?

## GO DEEPER

1. What does Luke 16:10-11 reveal about blessing *without* maturity?
2. According to Psalm 1:1-3, what are the characteristics of a blessed person? How would you describe these characteristics in our language and culture today?
3. From Genesis 32:30, the greatest blessing that Jacob experienced from his Jesus encounter was that He saw God face to face (see also Numbers 6:22-27). What does it mean or look like for us to *see God face to face*?

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. Do you want God to bless you, and how willing are you to fight for that blessing, to fully engage in a process of obedience and maturing?
2. What is the one area you want to see breakthrough and blessing in right now? What do you think obedience and maturity look like to see that breakthrough and blessing?
3. To what degree do you believe that knowing God and experiencing His presence is the greatest blessing? How easy or tempting is it for you to think that blessing means immediate comfort and convenience?

## PRACTICE IT NOW

**As a group, take time in an atmosphere of prayer to ask God to give you an ever-growing willingness to fight for blessing.** Ask Him to show you what it means to fight for blessing, to fully surrender to Him and to His ways. And ask Him to show you what your next step is in obedience that leads to maturity.