



Sermon
Discussion
Guide

Sunday, March 23, 2025

FAITH PROFILES

When Faith Hurts

Read/Reflect

1. Read Genesis 32:22-30.
2. What do you know about Jacob that would help you understand what's going on in this story?
3. Why do you think Jacob wanted to spend the night alone? What does it mean to wrestle with God?

Explore

4. Do you have any "Esau" encounters looming in your life? Does it draw you closer to God, or cause you to avoid, or give up, on God?
5. What is it like for you to find yourself alone with God?

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|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I'm ready for a fight | <input type="checkbox"/> I act all holy and pious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I'll run the other way | <input type="checkbox"/> I have no idea what that's like |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I want to explain myself | <input type="checkbox"/> I always feel loved and accepted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I'm up for a reasonable discussion | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
6. Can you identify the "limp" with which you have perhaps been afflicted? How does it help you to walk more closely with God?
7. What do you know about the season of Lent? Why would we spend time to reflect on Christ's suffering? What's the relationship between reflecting on Christ's suffering and our faith?

Pray

- Pray for one another (if in a group, otherwise for yourself) in the situations that bring disappointment with God or anger at God; pray for the Spirit to sustain you in faith as you face the pain and hurt you encounter
- Pray for courage to walk with a limp in your journey of faith so that neither shame nor pride would hinder your dependence on God's saving grace.