

## CHAMPIONS OF FAITH SERIES

### “Learning to Lean”

Hebrews 11:21 & Gen. 32

August 21, 2011

**Hebrews 11:21**, “By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and he worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff.”

**Philippians 1:6**, “I am sure of this, that He who started a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

**I. God Will P \_\_\_\_\_ You, but He Will Not P \_\_\_\_\_ You.** Gen. 32:1-20

What is Jacob saying? “Lord I trust you, B \_\_\_\_\_ !”

**II. God Will H \_\_\_\_\_ You, but He Will Not H \_\_\_\_\_ You.** Gen. 32:21-26

Do I fear being alone with God? Am I afraid of quiet intimate time with Him?

Who is that pounces on Jacob? \_\_\_\_\_

What’s the most important muscle to a wrestler? \_\_\_\_\_

You study the Bible and you’ll find out that many times God will act as if He wants to get away from us when He wants us to pursue Him with all of our heart.

Jacob is at the place where he realizes that his only hope is God; not his scheming, but his surrendering; not his bargaining, but his begging.

**Proverbs 3:11-12**, “Do not despise the Lord’s instruction, my son, and do not loathe His discipline; for the Lord disciplines the one He loves, just as a father, the son he delights in.”

**Hebrews 12:11**, “No discipline seems enjoyable at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it yields the fruit of peace and righteousness to those who have been trained by it.”

**III. God Will B \_\_\_\_\_ You, but He Desires to B \_\_\_\_\_ You.** Gen. 32:27-31

If God asked for your name today, what would it be? \_\_\_\_\_

Jacob is c \_\_\_\_\_ that he might be c \_\_\_\_\_.

**Psalms 51:17**, “The sacrifice pleasing to God is a broken spirit. God, You will not despise a broken and humbled heart.”

**Jeremiah 4:3**, “For this is what the Lord says to the men of Judah and Jerusalem: Break up the unplowed ground; do not sow among the thorns.”

Jesus said, “This is my body which is broken for you.”

#### **Final Thoughts:**

1. Failure doesn’t need to be final.
2. If you’re wise, you’ll save yourself a wrestling match and make a full surrender now. If you’ll judge yourself, you won’t have to be judged.
3. If there’s suffering in your life, let it teach you to lean on the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. When it is all said and done, it’s your worship by faith that really matters.

#### **My Next Steps ...**

- † Memorize Prov. 3:11-12 or Psalm 51:17.
- † I will trust God without interfering with His plan.
- † I will not be afraid to meet with God daily in a quiet place.
- † If God were to call me by my descriptive name, what would it be? Am I willing to change my life to get a new name?