

### Going deeper

In the passage we are looking at, Jacob is terrified as he faces his worst fears over obeying God. In this passage from Matthew's gospel, Jesus is facing the terror of the cross with prayer.

#### Read Matthew 26:36-46

5. How does Jesus respond to his terror of going to the cross?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What do Jesus's words in verse 39,41 reveal about the battle in his soul? (To understand what he means by 'cup' see: Psalm 75:8; Isaiah 51:17,22).
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. How do Jesus's instructions to his disciples in verse 41 show what Jesus is doing when he prays?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. How do Jesus's prayers match up with the Lord's prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What does this incident teach us about struggling with God in prayer?

**Now do the applying it to our lives questions...**



**Week Beginning  
Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

#### Growth Team News

This week is the last before the half-term break. We also welcome a new Growth Team as our Thursday night Explore group is now transitioning into a Growth Team!

The focus of this week's study is Genesis 32:22-32. You may like to read Genesis 25:19-33:20 to see the whole story of Jacob and Esau.

<b>Mon.</b>	8:00pm	<i>Edith Road</i>	07710 638614
<b>Wed.</b>	10:15am	<i>Goodwin Road</i>	
		<i>Contact Vanessa on</i>	01843 592857
	2:30pm	<i>Dane Park Road</i>	
			01843 583305
<b>Thu.</b>	9:30am	<i>The Vicarage</i>	
		<i>Contact: Willow</i>	01843 607157
		<i>or Audrey</i>	01843 592160
<b>Thu.</b>	7:30pm	<i>Kings Avenue</i>	01843 592562



**Growing in Christ  
to glorify God  
and enjoy Him forever.**

## Prayer: Struggling for a Blessing

*Genesis 32:22-32 (page 36)*

*Space to take notes on the talk*

- **The story so far...**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- **Prayer seeks \_\_\_\_\_ God**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- **Prayer fights \_\_\_\_\_ God**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- **Prayer leaves us \_\_\_\_\_ God**

## Getting to know each other

- ❖ Can you think of an example of a conversation with someone that made a big difference to you?

## Responding to the talk

1. What one thing from this week's talk really challenged or encouraged you?
  
2. Read Genesis 32:9-12
  - a. How and why has God blessed Jacob so far? (cf. 28:13-15; 32:3-5, 13-15, 22)
  - b. What does Jacob ask of God? Why is this a big deal for him? (cf. 27:41-45; 32:6-8; 17-21)
  - c. How does the prayer show that Jacob's request is in line with God's will?
3. Read Genesis 32:22-29
  - a. Why is it surprising that Jacob overpowers the 'man'? What does Jacob hope to win as a result?
  - b. Why does God rename Jacob before giving him the blessing?
  - c. What is God trying to teach Jacob and us through this new name?
4. Read Genesis 32:30-32
  - a. As Jacob looks back on this encounter, what amazes him about it? (cf. Exodus 33:20)
  - b. How is Jacob changed by his encounter with God?
  - c. What does it teach him about his relationship with God?

*You may like to do the 'Going Deeper' questions over the page.*

## Applying it to our lives

10. How can we learn to pray more in line with God's will?
  
11. If we see prayer as 'fighting for God's blessing', how might it change the way we pray?
  
12. How can we avoid seeing prayer as presenting God with a shopping list of our desires?