

Stop Wrestling with God

Genesis 32:22-31

The story of Jacob wrestling with God in Genesis 32 is emblematic of his entire life. While God had great plans for Jacob, he refused to wait for God's timing. He kept taking matters into his own hands and tried to force their completion. It is only when he was crippled that he yielded control and was ready to receive God's blessing.

	Round 1 Genesis 25-27	Round 2 Genesis 28-31	Round 3 Genesis 31-32	Surrender Genesis 32-34	Victory Genesis 35
High points	Promise of leadership (25:23-28)	Promise of return to the land (28:10-22)	God's direction (31:10-13) and presence (32:1-2)	"Please bless me" (32:22-32)	Complete dedication (35:1-15)
Low points	Striving for birthright (25:29-34) and blessing (27)	Striving for prosperity (29-31)	Striving for reconciliation (32:3-21)	Partial obedience leads to conflict (34)	

Round 1: Genesis 25-27

Round 2: Genesis 28-31

Round 3: Genesis 31-32

Surrender: Genesis 32-34

Victory: Genesis 35

God cannot bless us until we stop wrestling him for control of our lives and start trusting him to accomplish his plan in his time.