



There are moments when we meet God in a new way. After these moments, we exchange a concept for an encounter. When God shows up, it's not to show us what He looks like, but to show us what He is like. In the Old Testament, God shows up to young and old, to men and women. Let's look at these encounters and ask Him to continuing showing up in our lives.

**These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.**

**1** Part of this story deals with names and their meanings. As a quick icebreaker, share the meaning of your name (if any) and the story of why your parents picked it for you?

**2** Read **Genesis 32:22-24**. This isn't the first time God shows up to Jacob. God has shown up multiple times (see **Genesis 28:10-15 and 31:3 and 32:1-2**). What do you think is significant in this encounter compared to the others?

**3** Read **Genesis 32:27-28**. **God's blessing gives a new name.** Jacob goes from "Heel Grabber" and "Deceiver" to "One Who Struggles With God and Overcomes." Why did this name change matter? Similar to Jacob's new name, how does God give Christians a new identity through Jesus?

**4** Read **Genesis 32:24-25 and Hosea 12:3-4**. **God's blessing comes with a wound.** Why do you think it took a dislocated hip for Jacob to reach a new level of desperation and dependence? How does God use desperate moments to deepen our faith?

**5** Read **Genesis 32:30-31**. **God's blessing turns defeat into victory.** Jacob clearly lost the fight, but he is named the victor. How does God turning winning and losing upside down in His kingdom?

**6** Read **Colossians 2:13-15**. In Jesus, the greatest defeat became the ultimate victory. So for Christians, what does it mean to "lose" to God in order to win? How do we live as "more than conquerors" because of Jesus' victory day to day (see **Romans 8:37**)?

