

Four Reasons Why God Blessed Jacob

by Zac Poonen

God blesses us when we are alone with Him, broken by Him, hungry for Him, and honest with Him.

Scripture: Luke 10:42

Topics: "Spiritual Brokenness", "Intimacy With God"

Description

Zac Poonen preaches on the blessings that come when believers are alone with God, emphasizing the importance of prioritizing time with Him over busyness and distractions. He also highlights the significance of being broken by God, as seen in Jacob's wrestling with God at Peniel, where God shattered Jacob's strong points. Furthermore, Poonen discusses the blessing of being earnest and hungry for God, showcasing Jacob's determination to not let go until he received God's blessing. Lastly, he underscores the power of being honest with God, using Jacob's transformation from a deceiver to a sincere man as an example of how true brokenness and honesty lead to God's abundant blessings.

Transcript

1. Alone with God:

Jacob was blessed in the place where he was alone with God. He sent everyone else away and was alone (Gen. 32:24). 20th century believers find it difficult to spend much time alone with God. The spirit of the jet-age has got into most of us, and we are in a perpetual state of busyness. The trouble is not with our temperament or our culture. We just don't have our priorities right - that's all. Jesus once said that the one thing needful for a believer was to sit at His feet and listen to Him (Luke 10:42). But we don't believe that any longer and so suffer the disastrous consequences of disregarding Jesus' words. If we are always busy with our various activities and do not know what it is to get alone with God in fasting and prayer, we shall certainly not know God's power or blessing - His real power, I mean, not the cheap counterfeits of which many are boasting.

2. Broken by God:

Jacob was blessed in the place where he was broken completely. At Peniel, a Man wrestled with Jacob. God had been wrestling with Jacob for twenty years, but Jacob had refused to yield. God had tried to show him how everything he had put his hand to had gone wrong, despite his cleverness and his planning. But Jacob was still stubborn. Finally God struck Jacob's hip-socket so that his thigh was dislocated (Gen 32: 25). The thigh is the strongest part of the body, and that was the part that God struck. The strong

points in our life are what God seeks to shatter.

3. Hungry for God:

Jacob was blessed in the place where he was earnest and hungry for God. "I will not leave you", he cries out, "until you bless me" (Gen 32:26). How God had waited for twenty long years to hear those words from Jacob. He, who had spent his life grabbing the birthright, women, money and property, now lets go of them all and grabs hold of God. This was the point towards which God had been working in Jacob's life all along.

4. Honest with God:

Jacob was blessed in the place where he was honest with God. God asks him, "What is your name?" Twenty years earlier, when his father had asked him the same question, he had lied and said, "I am Esau" (Gen. 27:19). But now he is honest. He says, "Lord, I am Jacob" (Gen 32:27)- or in other words, "Lord, I am a grabber, a deceiver and a bargainer." There was no guile in Jacob now. And so God could bless him. God blessed Jacob there - when he was honest, when he did not want to pretend any more, when he confessed, "Lord I'm a hypocrite. There is shame and pretense in my life." I tell you, it takes real brokenness for a man to acknowledge that from the depths of his heart. Let us covet sincerity and honesty and openness with all of our hearts, and then there will be no limit to God's blessing upon our lives.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/zac-poonen/four-reasons-why-god-blessed-jacob/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net