# Wrestling with God...

## Share

1. If you were to describe your life as a journey, what have been some of the significant waypoints you have passed so far?

## **Observe & Reflect**

#### Read Genesis 31:1-21

- 2. What reasons does Jacob have for wanting to leave Laban?
- 3. How would you describe the way Jacob leaves Laban? What old habits do you see in him?
- 4. What is significant about God's command to Jacob in verse 3?

#### Read Genesis 31:22-55

- 5. What stands out to you in the way God protects Jacob?
- 6. How does the confrontation between Laban and Jacob end? Why is that important?
- 7. What does the covenant between Laban and Jacob reveal about their relationship—and about God's involvement?

#### Read Genesis 32:1-21

- 8. Why is Jacob afraid when he hears that Esau is coming with 400 men?
- 9. What does Jacob's prayer in verses 9–12 reveal about his heart, his fears, and his faith?
- 10. How does Jacob try to manage the situation with Esau? Do you see trust in God or fear of Esau—or both?

### Read Genesis 32:22-32

- 11.Why do you think God wrestles with Jacob? What do you think the wrestling means?
- 12. What is the significance of the name change from Jacob to Israel?
- 13. How does Jacob leave this encounter changed—both physically and spiritually?

## Next Steps....

- 14.Jacob's journey is marked by fear—fear of Laban, fear of Esau, fear of loss. How does fear shape your own decisions and reactions?
- 15.How does God show faithfulness to Jacob, even when Jacob falls into old patterns?Have you ever had a "wrestle" with God—an experience that left you changed or challenged in your faith?
- 16.Jacob walks away limping, but blessed. How might God use our physical weakness or struggle to strengthen our trust in God?
- 17.In what ways does this passage point forward to Jesus? What comfort does it give you to know that Jesus has wrestled on your behalf?
- 18.What fears are you carrying right now—whether about the past or the future? How might God be calling you to trust him more deeply in those areas?
- 19.What "idols from the past" do you find yourself tempted to hold on to, like Rachel? What would it look like to leave them behind for good?
- 20.As we wait for the "new day" of full restoration, how can we walk with hope and confidence—even with a limp?