

*Use the following thoughts and questions to have one spiritual conversation. You can pick and choose, use them all or just allow the statement to be your guide. The emphasis shouldn't be about having all the answers, but simply having a conversation.*

### **Scripture**

Genesis 32:24-32; 35:9-15

## **1. Opening Statement**

*Begin your conversation by asking about this main point:*

### **Encountering God leads to a fundamental change of identity and purpose.**

This main point is the biblical truth the student's study was built around. Each week there will be one statement that ties the whole study together. These would be great statements to remember together. The hope is that thoughts and ideas will stem from these statements. You can also begin by sharing a thought of your own that you learned during your study of the same session. Ask what thoughts were surprising as the study was taught.

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## **2. Thought From the Study**

In Scripture, we see that God's purpose in blessing His people is not so they will hoard the blessing to themselves. God blesses His people so that they will be a blessing to others. God changes people so that they can be agents of change for others. We see in Jacob's life that God blessed and changed him so that Jacob—Israel—would be the means by which God brought change and blessing to the whole world.

### **► In what ways do our past mistakes haunt and define us?**

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## **3. Quote for Discussion**

*Discuss this quote together. How does this change your understanding of a relationship with Jesus?*

**"It often takes an experience of crippling weakness for us to finally discover [God's blessing]. That is why so many of the most God-blessed people limp as they dance for joy." –Tim Keller, *Counterfeit Gods***

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## **4. Conversation Questions**

*Use these questions to begin thinking through and applying the lessons to your family life:*

1. Why is it important for our family to forgive one another's past mistakes?
2. For what have you been shown grace in our family?
3. What difficult circumstances has God used to lead our family to him? What positive changes did you see take place in our relationship with one another and with God as a result?
4. What are some ways God has blessed our family? How can we use what He has given us to bless others?