

Jacob and Esau
Lesson #17
Genesis 32-33

Jacob had served his uncle Laban for twenty years and began to notice a change in Laban's attitude toward him. Also, Laban's sons became angry and accused Jacob of stealing their inheritance. As the tension intensified, Jacob decided it was time to leave Haran and return home. However, that meant he would have to face his brother Esau. With God's assurance, Jacob, his family, and all he owned, set out for home.

The Journey Begins - Genesis 32:1-21

1. Who met Jacob as he began this journey? (Genesis 32:1)
2. What did Jacob say and do when he saw them? (Genesis 32:2)

Mahanaim means two camps.

3. Jacob sent messengers ahead to meet his brother. What were Jacob's instructions? (Genesis 32:4, 5)
4. When the messengers returned to Jacob, what information did they have? (Genesis 32:6)
5. Using Genesis 32:6-8:
 - What were Jacob's emotions?
 - What did he do because of this?
 - What was Jacob's thinking in doing this?
 - Jacob's response was to pray! How did he address the LORD? (Genesis 32:9a)

6. After reminding God that He was the One that had directed him to go home, how did Jacob say he felt before the LORD? (Genesis 32:10)

7. What was Jacob's request of the LORD? (Genesis 32:11)

8. Once again Jacob reminded God of His promise. As night approached, what did Jacob do? (Genesis 32:13-16)

9. What was the total Jacob was sending?

10. What was the lead servant to say to Esau when asked, "to whom do you belong and where are you going"? (Genesis 32:17, 18)

11. Each leader was instructed to say the same thing when they met Esau. What did Jacob hope that would accomplish? (Genesis 32:20, 21)

The Wrestling Match - Genesis 32:22-32

12. Jacob made sure that everyone in his family and all his possessions were safely across the river that night, leaving Jacob alone. What took place that night? (Genesis 32:24)

13. What happened to Jacob during this wrestling match? (Genesis 32:25)

14. What did Jacob require of the man before releasing him? (Genesis 32:26)

15. Then what important name change occurred and why? (Genesis 32:27, 28)

Jacob means *heel grabber or deceiver* and Israel means *struggles with God*.

16. When Jacob asked the man his name what was the response? (Genesis 32:29)

17. What did Jacob name that place and what does that mean? (Genesis 32:30)

18. As a result of this struggle, what happened to Jacob? (Genesis 32:31)

19. What does the nation of Israel not do because of what happened to Jacob? (Genesis 32:32)

Jacob Meets Esau – Genesis 33:1-20

20. When Jacob finally saw his brother coming with four hundred men, what did Jacob immediately do? (Genesis 33:1, 2)

21. How did Jacob greet his brother? (Genesis 33:3)

22. What was Esau's reaction to meeting Jacob? (Genesis 33:4)

23. When Esau asked Jacob about all the women and children, how did Jacob answer? (Genesis 33:5)

24. What order did Jacob's wives and children approach and what did they do? (Genesis 33:6, 7)

25. Esau asked Jacob about all the animals he had seen along the road. What did Jacob reply? (Genesis 33:8)

26. Remembering they had been young men with little possessions when they parted, what was Esau's answer? (Genesis 33:9)

27. Jacob insisted Esau keep them. What amazing statement did Jacob make about meeting his twin brother Esau again? (Genesis 33:10)

28. Jacob finally convinced Esau to accept his gift. Now, with the long-dreaded meeting over, and with better-than-expected results, what did Esau suggest to Jacob? (Genesis 33:12)

29. When answering Esau, how did Jacob address his brother? (Genesis 33:13)

30. Jacob declined Esau's offer and said his children and animals would be too slow for Esau. What did Esau offer as his replacement? (Genesis 33:15a)

31. Jacob declined again so Esau returned to Seir (also called Edom). Where did Jacob go? (Genesis 33:17)

Bridge To The Next Part Of The Story - Genesis 33:18-20

The next couple of verses set up the saddest part of Jacob's story. Fill in the information below using Genesis 33:18 - 20.

- Jacob arrived _____.

- Jacob set up camp in sight of the city of _____.

- He bought the site from the _____ of _____ the father of _____.

- He paid _____ pieces of _____ for the plot of ground.

- Jacob set up an _____ and called it El Elohe Israel.

El Elohe means God of Israel or mighty is the God of Israel.