

## ***Discussion Questions for Genesis 31-33***

### **Chapter 31:**

Why did Laban's attitude change toward Jacob? Was it justified?

What exactly did God tell and promise Jacob in verse 3?

Why would Rachel steal her father's idols?

Was it necessary for Jacob to sneak away?

How did God protect Jacob from Laban? Was protection necessary?

Describe the covenant Laban and Jacob made:

### **Chapter 32:**

Explain Jacob's strategy for meeting Esau.

Why was Jacob recently so bold with Laban, yet so fearful of Esau?

Summarize Jacob's prayer in 9-12

With whom did Jacob wrestle? What was the result of this match?

### **Chapter 33:**

Describe how Jacob divided up his family in order to greet Esau. Are any insights provided with the lineup?

What are the dispositions of both brothers when they meet?

Esau refused and then accepted the gifts Jacob offered, what's going on here, another custom of the time?

Jacob is not a completely changed man and falls into some old behaviors. What did he tell Esau he'd do? What did he actually do? Why? Is this in obedience to what God instructed him to do?

### **Reflection:**

Have you ever been caught in a situation where jealousy and envy damaged relationships?

How does God reveal Himself today? Is it possible that He still operates through dreams and visions? In person (and a wrestling one at that)? How can someone know if it's Him?