

Overview of the Old Testament 7
“GETTING BLESSED GOD’S WAY”
-JACOB-
Genesis 27 - 32

What is clear as we read about Jacob, is that he wanted to get the most out of life. He wanted God’s blessing—the good things God can give; but because he was not really walking with God, he turned to the methods of the world around him, using dishonest and devious means (finagling)—to get what he wanted. Yet even when he managed to do so, trouble and conflict were never far away.

Jacob has a lot to teach us about the right way of seeking contentment. We all want to be satisfied and fulfilled. And Jacob’s life shows us both the *wrong way* to accomplish this, and the *right way*. Let’s look first at the wrong way to seek contentment. It’s when:

1. WE SEEK GOD’S BLESSINGS MORE THAN GOD

- What does this title mean?
- From each of the following passages explain how they illustrate the title of this first point.
 - Genesis 25:27-34
 - Genesis 27
 - Genesis 27:42-43
 - Gen 30:37-39
 - Genesis 31:17-20
- What lesson can you draw from this first point for your own life?

2. WE SEEK GOD MORE THAN HIS BLESSINGS

- What does the prayer in Genesis 32:9-12 reveal about Jacob’s change of attitude?
- What is the significance of Jacob insisting on being blessed in Genesis 32:26?
- What is the significance of Jacob’s name change in Genesis 32:27-28.
- What was the number one thing God was trying to accomplish in Jacob’s life?
- What lesson can you draw from this second point for your own life?