

**SERMON:** Finding True Blessing  
**SCRIPTURE:** Genesis 33

**SERIES:** Jacob: Seeking True Blessings  
**SPEAKER:** Pastor Brady  
November 24, 2019

**THE GOAL:** The primary goal of a small group at Grace is to develop a Christian community where Jesus is experienced through the gospel.

**ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS:** Use these questions to explore how God is at work in our families, communities, workplaces, and church.

1. Where have you seen God at work in your life this week?
2. What temptations have you been facing this week? How is God delivering you?
3. How have you experienced God's grace this week?
4. In what ways are you growing in your love for God?
5. In what ways are you growing in your love for others?
6. Have you started or stopped something this week just because you love Jesus?

**REVIEW:** Use these questions to better understand and apply the passage/sermon.

**Observation:** as a group talk through and summarize the passage. Think through Who, What, Where, When, How, Why questions together.

**Interpretation:** answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?
2. What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?
3. What does this passage teach us about salvation/grace?
4. How does this passage point to Christ?

**Application:** answer these questions together:

1. How does this passage convict you? Encourage you? Inspire you?
2. What specific truth do you see about God and how would your life be different if you really believed it?
3. By God's grace, what commitments do you need to make this week? Or, what do you need to start obeying/believing?

**GO DEEPER:** Use these questions to go deeper into the passage, minds, and hearts.

1. We must respond to sexual abuse with the courage and compassion of God. What are some ways that you personally and the church in general can respond to abuse survivors in caring and courageous ways? Do you need to confess for how you have responded in the past?
2. Who do you relate to in Genesis 34-35? Where do you see yourself? (Shechem? Dinah? Jacob? Simeon and Levi? Reuben? Bilhah? Other?) What can you learn from this passage?
3. Read Psalm 13. Neither Dinah nor Bilhah say anything in Genesis 34-35. How does Psalm 13 speak for them? How does Jesus on the cross speak for them? How does Psalm 13 and Christ speak for YOU today?
4. True blessing comes when we trust that we are who God says we are and not the sum total of all of our good and bad actions and experiences. How does this truth encourage you today? How can believing this actually help you to live by faith like Jacob did in Genesis 35?
5. In Genesis 35 Jacob did 3 things: 1) Leave his "city," 2) Bury his idols, 3) Get moving. Which of these stand out to you? In what ways are you "settling" or stuck? How can trusting God's promises get you moving forward again?

**Pray:** Pray Hebrews 12:1-2. Thank Jesus for his love and courage in "despising his shame" so that he could carry your shame. Confess ways you have set your eyes on things other than him. Ask for the grace to "fix your eyes" on Christ.