

Modern Family Vintage

Values: Fighting For Your Family

(Genesis 32:22-32)

Introduction.

A) Recently, Charissa and I attended the funeral of her uncle Harvey Patterson. I did not know Harvey very well, but certainly drove home with a healthy respect for him.

- 1) He was a veteran.
- 2) He was a spiritual man.
- 3) He was a servant.
- 4) He experienced loss.
- 5) He had a rebellious son.

B) The movie, War Room, was story of a woman fighting for her family.

- Successful family on the exterior, but falling apart on inside.
- Husband is a salesman. He considers an affair.
- The wife encounters a older woman that encourages her to fight for her family through intercessory prayer.
- As a result of the "war room", God did some amazing things in the life of the young couple.

C) Intercessory prayer is a mysterious, difficult, and easily neglected part of the Christian walk.

D) Contextualize Genesis 32:22-32. Note the backstory.

- Abraham was selected by God and had son named Isaac as fulfillment of God's promise.
- Isaac had twin sons named Esau and Jacob. Esau was an outdoors man. Jacob was a home body.
- Jacob was preparing a meal one day when Esau returned from hunting. Esau was very hungry and the food smelled marvelous.
- Jacob, offered the soup to Esau in exchange for his birthright. Esau accepted the deal.
- Sometime later Esau realized the consequence of his actions and decided to kill his brother after their father dies.
- Jacob bugs out and is away for 30 years.

- Jacob decides to return home. However, he learns that his brother is coming to meet him with 400 armed men. Jacob freaks and decides to pray.

I. Pray God's Promises (Genesis 32:9-12)

A) Identify God's Promises (v. 9, 12)

- 1) general vs. specific promises
- 2) conditional vs. unconditional

B) Fulfill Your Part

C) Trust God to Fulfill His Part

Application:

- 1) Pray for your kid's/spouse's salvation.
- 2) Pray for you kid's/spouse's spiritual protection
- 2) Pray for your kid's/spouse's life success
- 3) Pray for your kid's/spouse's spouse
- 4) Pray for your kid's/spouse's wisdom

NOTE: God gave every person a will, including that wayward spouse or kid. God does not violate man's will, but somehow he affects men's hearts. You praying for them is a part of that equation.

II. Pray Persistently.

A) Intercessory prayer is hard work (32:24-25)

B) Intercessory prayer is often abandoned too early (32:26)

III. Pray Repentantly.

A) Intercessory prayer changes the person praying (32:28-29)

B) Intercessory prayer puts our focus on God (32:29)

C) Intercessory prayer will reveal God's heart (32:30)

Conclusion