

Elephant in the Living Room: Forgiveness

Text: Genesis 32 (Read Gen. 25:19-34 on your own to give context)

Purpose: To become free from hurts by learning to acknowledge them and then take steps toward a journey of forgiveness.

Opening Question: *I'd rather wrestle (a) a bear or (b) a crocodile? Why?*

Read and Discuss: Genesis 32

1. *Gen. 32:1-21. Why is Jacob meeting with Esau? How is Jacob manipulating this situation? Why is he afraid?*
2. *What fears do we have in asking for forgiveness?*
3. *Gen. 32:22-31 Why does Jacob wrestle with God? What happens after he wrestles with God?*
4. *How does surrendering to God allow us to start forgiving others?*
5. *Is it possible to forgive someone without them offering anything in return?*
6. *Can you forgive someone but not have reconciliation?*
7. *How does Jesus' death and resurrection allow us to start forgiving others?*