

LIFE Group Guide

Deliverance

Pastor Justin Searles

November 16, 2025



THE ORCHARD

Read: Genesis 32:31, 33:1-3

Outline:

Jacob's bitter departure: (Gen 27:34-41)

- an exceedingly great and bitter cry
- "is he not rightly named Jacob?"
- lifted up his voice and wept
- Esau hated Jacob... "I will kill my brother Jacob"

Jacob's hopes for deliverance:

- His wealth (32:3-5)
- His divisive plan (32:7-8)
- His "deal" with God (32:9-12)
- His tenfold compensation (32:13-15)
- His manipulation (32:16-20)
- His desperate escape attempt (32:22)
- His insincere display of submission (33:3b)

God answers Jacob's fearful prayer (33:4)

- But Esau ran to meet him
- and embraced him
- and fell on his neck and kissed him
- and they wept

"While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him." - **Luke 15:20**

Discussion Questions

1. What encouraged, nourished, or challenged you from this sermon? The scripture passage?
2. What are the reasons that Jacob is worried about meeting with Esau? Have there been times when you've been fearful about meeting someone you've wronged? How do you relate to what Jacob does?
3. How do we see Jacob trusting God as he approaches meeting Esau? How do we see that he is still struggling with faith?
4. What does this passage teach us about prayer and encourage us to pray?
5. How does Esau respond to Jacob's return? What's surprising about it?
6. How does Esau's response to Jacob point us to the deliverance that we have through Jesus?