



Part 1: “A Cage Match for Control”

Introduction

We spend so much of our energy trying to control the world around us. Our prayers frequently reflect this desire for control. The quality of our relationship with God is often dictated by how much we believe God is delivering on our prayers for control. When God doesn't bend to our wills, we wrestle him for control. The life of Jacob provides insight that can help us move past this wrestling match.

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever watched a particularly compelling fight? What made it so memorable?
2. In what area of life are you most prone to fight for control?
3. In Genesis 32, Jacob wanted the promises of God without the pain of surrender. What makes it difficult to surrender control of our lives—or even areas of our lives—to God?
4. Read Hebrews 11:1. What is the connection between faith and surrender?
5. In the message, Gavin suggested that it is only when we stop fighting God for control that we experience the fruit of following him. How does that make you feel?
6. In this season, where do you need to stop wrestling with God for control? What would it look like to surrender in that area? How can this group support you in that?

Changing Your Mind

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

—Hebrews 11:1