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Hebrews 13:5 says, "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.'"

Faithful Promise: God promises His faithfulness and unchanging love, and He will never abandon us, regardless of the circumstances. These promises remind us that God is a trustworthy and faithful God, and His words are reliable. When we trust in God's promises, we can find comfort in difficulties, strength in challenges, and courage in hope. God's promises serve as our guide and hope, giving us confidence and steadfastness.

Numbers 6:24-27 says, "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

Dear Heavenly Father,

we gather before Your presence in prayer. Please look upon our inner struggles and difficulties, and grant us the strength to persevere. Lord, in moments of self-doubt, questioning, and challenges, grant us unwavering faith and courage. May Your Holy Spirit fill us, helping us overcome obstacles and believe in Your promises and plans.

We deeply believe in Your existence and Your love and care for me. In every moment of our life, whether in joy or difficulty, we long for Your help and guidance. Be with us, so that we may always seek Your wisdom and strength to face all challenges and difficulties. We believe that You will hear our prayers and provide us with the strength we need.

Lord, You are our refuge and help. Show Your grace and power, that we may experience Your blessings through perseverance. May Your will be fulfilled in our lives, and may we experience the abundance of heaven through our faith.

We pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

## Genesis chapter 32

Genesis chapter 32 recounts a significant event in the life of Jacob, the son of Isaac and grandson of Abraham. Here's a summary of Genesis 32 along with some important verses:

### Summary:

In Genesis 32, Jacob is returning to the land of Canaan after spending many years in the house of his father-in-law, Laban. As he approaches his homeland, Jacob receives word that his brother Esau, whom he had deceived and from whom he had fled years ago, is coming to meet him with a large company of men. Fearful of Esau's potential hostility, Jacob becomes greatly distressed.

Jacob divides his family and possessions into two camps, hoping that if Esau attacks one group, the other might escape. In a moment of deep concern, Jacob prays to God, acknowledging his unworthiness and reminding God of His promises to bless him and make his descendants numerous.

That night, Jacob is left alone by the Jabbok River, and he wrestles with a man until daybreak. This mysterious figure is later revealed to be God Himself. During the struggle, the man touches the socket of Jacob's hip, leaving him with a limp, but Jacob refuses to let go unless he is blessed. God blesses Jacob, changes his name to Israel, which means "one who wrestles with God," and promises him great blessings and descendants.

The next day, Jacob encounters Esau, who surprisingly embraces him with brotherly love. Esau forgives Jacob and accepts his gifts, showing that reconciliation has taken place. Jacob acknowledges God's presence and protection throughout his journey.

### Important verses:

Genesis 32:9: "Then Jacob prayed, 'O God of my father Abraham, God of my father Isaac, Lord, you who said to me, "Go back to your country and your relatives, and I will make you prosper.'"

This verse shows Jacob's prayer to God, seeking His guidance and protection.

Genesis 32:28: "Then the man said, 'Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome.'"

This verse reveals the renaming of Jacob to Israel, symbolizing his transformative encounter with God.

Genesis 32:30: "So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared.'"

Jacob acknowledges that he has encountered God face to face and recognizes God's mercy in sparing his life.

Genesis 32:32: "Therefore, to this day, the Israelites do not eat the tendon attached to the socket of the hip because the socket of Jacob's hip was touched near the tendon."

This verse explains the reason behind a dietary practice among the Israelites, stemming from Jacob's wrestling match with God.

Genesis 32 is a pivotal chapter in Jacob's life, showcasing his wrestling with God, the subsequent name change, and the reconciliation with his brother Esau. It illustrates the transformative power of encountering God and highlights the importance of seeking His guidance and blessings in challenging situations.

## Reflections on Genesis chapter 32

Genesis chapter 32 provides us with several reflections and lessons:

**Wrestling with God:** Jacob's wrestling match with God symbolizes the struggles we face in our own lives. It shows that it is not uncommon to wrestle with our faith, doubts, and difficult circumstances. Just as Jacob persisted in his struggle, we should also persevere in seeking God's blessings and guidance, even in the midst of our own struggles.

**Surrender and Dependence:** Despite his initial fear and distress, Jacob demonstrates surrender and dependence on God. He prays and acknowledges his unworthiness, recognizing that his blessings come from God's grace. It serves as a reminder that we too should humbly surrender our fears and concerns to God, relying on His strength and guidance.

**Transformation and Reconciliation:** The encounter with God results in a transformative change for Jacob. His name is changed to Israel, signifying his growth and identity as one who wrestles with God. Additionally, the chapter highlights the importance of reconciliation as Jacob and Esau reconcile their differences. It teaches us the significance of forgiveness, reconciliation, and the restoration of broken relationships.

**God's Faithfulness:** Throughout the chapter, we witness God's faithfulness to Jacob. Despite Jacob's past mistakes and his fear of Esau's anger, God keeps His promises and protects Jacob. This reminds us of God's unwavering love and faithfulness towards His children. It encourages us to trust in God's faithfulness, knowing that He is always present and working in our lives.

**Embracing God's Blessings:** Jacob's encounter with God leads to blessings and a renewed sense of purpose. It serves as a reminder for us to embrace the blessings that God wants to bestow upon us. Like Jacob, we should hold onto God's promises and not let go until we receive His blessings.

Genesis chapter 32 encourages us to persevere in our faith, surrender our struggles to God, seek reconciliation, trust in His faithfulness, and embrace the blessings He has for us. It reminds us that through wrestling with God, our lives can be transformed, and we can experience His grace and guidance in every situation.