

Through It All

Description

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Genesis 32:1-12

Most everyone has made mistakes, some of which have defined their lives. Jacob is the epitome of someone "with a past." He cheated his older brother Esau out of his birthrights; he deceived his blind father to get his blessings. As a result, he had to flee for his life. And now, over twenty years later, his past is about to catch up with him. He will soon need to face Esau again and his heart is filled with "fear and distress" (v. 7).

But as he approaches the God of his ancestors in prayer, he is struck with the clear awareness that he has been the unworthy recipient of much grace. God has been watching over him. This realization gives Jacob courage to face the future.

It's the same for us. What defines us is not our past. What defines our lives is the gracious presence, even in our darkest days, of the God of Jacob.

No matter what life has been, we can face the challenges of today because, through it all, the God of grace is with us.

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