

# STUDY GUIDE

## GENESIS: Week 14 8.24.14

### [set up]

This week Pastor Chad taught on how Jacob reconciled his relationships with his father-in-law Laban and his brother Esau. As you read through this passage you will clearly see that no one was innocent in the conflicts that they had with each other, but how they were able to reconcile their differences had some commonalities.

How would you define reconciliation? Are there different levels reconciliation?

Can you still reconcile a situation with someone and not have the relationship restored back to the way it was originally?

### [digging deeper]

In chapter 31, we see the first example of conflict in this section of scripture and it is between Jacob and his father-in-law Laban. What was that main source of the conflict between them?

Read verse 24. What happened that caused this situation from getting way out of hand?

Would you consider their relationship reconciled?

The second relationship, we see in this passage, that has conflict is between Jacob and his brother Esau. We need to remember the last time they saw each other, Esau wanted to kill Jacob. (Genesis 27:41) As you read through chapter 32, what are some of most important events that happened in Jacob's life before he met up with his brother Esau? (32:9-12, 32:22-32)

Jacob is not the only person in history that needed to reconcile with someone. We will all have a time in our life that we will need to reconcile with someone. How do these verses encourage us to reconcile with others? (Matthew 5:9, Romans 12:18, 1 Corinthians 13:1-7)

The most important Person we will need to reconcile with is God, because all of our sin. The good news is that God provided us a way that we are able to be reconciled with Him. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21, Colossians 1:20, Romans 5:11. What is the only way we are able to be reconciled with God?



## **[living it out]**

Pray to ask God to show you someone in your life that you need to reconcile with. What are you going to do this week to work toward reconciliation with this person? What can be a first action step/initiation toward peace? What is the first thing you should do before you go and try to reconcile with that person?

As you finish this study, make sure you spend time in prayer and asking God for wisdom and guidance on how to reconcile with the people you have conflict with. As it says in James 1:5 “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.” We may not know how handle these kinds of tough situations, but the Lord will give us the wisdom to do it. We need to keep our eyes on Him and trust in Him to do the work in our life and the lives of the other people. Ask God’s help in identifying where you need to ask for forgiveness or extend forgiveness, and to help you to do the needed work in your heart.

## **[resources:]**

<http://www.christianbook.com/choosing-forgiveness-your-journey-to-freedom/nancy-demoss/9780802432537/pd/432530>

<http://www.christianbook.com/boundaries-softcover-henry-cloud/9780310247456/pd/247454>

<http://www.amazon.com/It-Came-Within-Shocking-Truth/dp/B002T451D6>