

MARCH 21, 2021 / THE BACKWARDS BLESSING / GENESIS 48:8-20

This week, we looked at the final stage of Jacob's life. His greatest revelation about God and Himself didn't come through striving, achievements, or deception. True growth happened as he realized his lack of control and experienced deep loss. Like Jacob, we are often "driven by our dreams but we learn from our losses."

READ GENESIS 48:8-20

1. Describe the dreams you had for your life before the events of this past year. In what ways (if any) have those dreams changed?

- 2. What have you lost this past year? What have you gained over the course of this year?
- 3. What might God be telling you about Himself as you reflect on your losses of this past year?
- 4. What might God be telling you about yourself as you reflect on your losses of this past year? God doesn't bless in the way that the world blesses. Have someone from your group read Matthew 5:3-12.
- 5. What aspect of God's blessing gives you the most hope right now?

PRAY NUMBERS 6:24-26 FOR EACH MEMBER OF YOUR GROUP. YOU CAN HAVE ONE PERSON DO THIS FOR THE ENTIRE GROUP OR YOU CAN HAVE EACH PERSON PRAY THESE VERSES FOR THE PERSON ON THEIR RIGHT BY NAME.