

Introduction:

Truth: Turning life's lemons into lemonade _____.

Ephesians 6:12, "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

Example: _____

Genesis 32:24, 28, "So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak...Then the man said, 'Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome.'"

Two Realities...

- _____ uses life's difficulties to _____ where He wants us.
- _____ uses life's difficulties to _____ from where God wants us.

John 10:10, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

Genesis 33:4, "but Esau ran to meet Jacob and embraced him; he threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. And they wept."

Application: In order to get where God wants us, we have to make the _____ when confronted with difficulties.

Psalms 13, "How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and every day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me? Look on me and answer, O LORD my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death; my enemy will say, 'I have overcome him,' and my foes will rejoice when I fall. But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing to the LORD, for he has been good to me."

- We must make the choice to _____.
Genesis 32:26, "Then the man said, 'Let me go, for it is daybreak.' But Jacob replied, 'I will not let you go unless you bless me.'"

- We must make the choice to _____ to defeat.

- We must make the choice to _____ we can to win.

- We must make the choice to embrace our _____.

Genesis 32:25, 31, "When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip."

- We must make the right choices _____.

Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."