
NOTES:

RESOLUTION OPTIONS

1. I will take an account of the gifts God has blessed me with since I finished college or started a family and share that account with my children.
2. I will begin the process of reconciliation with a family member whom I have been alienated from.
3. I will discuss with my wife how we can share our material blessings with a family member who is in need.
4. I will give an important gift to someone close to me this week.
5. I will go to prayer by myself this week and discuss a goal that I have with the Lord. Following prayer, I will write down a strategy for achieving that goal.
6. I will fast for a particular intention this week.
7. I will read about the lives of the saints and find a saint that shares similar personality traits with my children individually. I will then share these stories with my children and explain how each saint related to the Lord.
8. I will share one lesson I have learned from the story of Jacob with my family at dinner this week.

MY RESOLUTION

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"I WILL NOT LET YOU GO UNLESS YOU BLESS ME."

- JACOB

OPENING PRAYER

PSALM 135

JACOB VS. THE LORD

GENESIS 32

RESOLUTIONS

PRAYER PARTNERS

PSALM 135

¹ Praise the Lord! Praise the name of the Lord, give praise O servants of the Lord,
² you that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God!
³ Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; sing to his name, for he is gracious!
⁴ For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself, Israel as his own possession.
⁵ For I know that the Lord is great, and that our Lord is above all gods.
⁶ Whatever the Lord pleases he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all
deeps.
⁷ He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth,
 who makes lightnings for the rain
 and brings forth the wind from his storehouses.
⁸ He it was who struck the first-born of Egypt, both of man and of beast;
⁹ who in your midst, O Egypt,
 sent signs and wonders against Pharaoh and all his servants;
¹⁰ who struck many nations and slew mighty kings.
¹¹ Sihon, king of the Amorites, and Og, King of Bashan, and all the kingdoms of Canaan.
¹² and gave their land as a heritage, a heritage to his people Israel.
¹³ Your name, O Lord, endures for ever, your renown, O Lord, throughout all ages.
¹⁴ For the Lord will vindicate his people, and have compassion on his servants.
¹⁵ The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of men's hands.
¹⁶ They have mouths, but they speak not, they have eyes, but they see not,
¹⁷ they have ears, but they hear not, nor is there any breath in their mouths.
¹⁸ Like them be those who make them! -- yes, every one who trusts in them!
¹⁹ O house of Israel, bless the Lord! O house of Aaron, bless the Lord!
²⁰ O house of Levi, bless the Lord! You that fear the Lord, bless the Lord!
²¹ Blessed be the Lord from Zion, he who dwells in Jerusalem! Praise the Lord!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

JACOB VS. THE LORD GENESIS 32

1. Compare what Jacob has when he left home to what he has now. Compare what you had when you first left home to what you have now.
2. Jacob alienated his brother Esau, and fled. Now Jacob has alienated his uncle Laban, and fled. What lessons are there for a Patriarch regarding "alienation" and "reconciliation" with family? How has reconciliation been modeled to you by older family members? How have you modeled reconciliation to your children?
3. Read Jacob's prayer aloud together. Is his prayer different from your own prayers? How so? How does Jacob supplement prayer with strategy? How can you combine prayer and strategy in pursuing a goal?
4. What is the purpose of Jacob's messengers? What is the purpose of Jacob's gifts? How do modern Patriarchs make use of messengers and gifts for similar purposes?
5. What is Jacob's experience at Peniel? How does Jacob's experience at Peniel correspond to Jacob's past relationships? How does this inform a Patriarch's relationship with God?
6. Jacob is renamed "Israel." What is the meaning of this name? What are the positive and negative implications of this name? How do the characteristics of Jacob reflect the characteristics of both the people of Israel and the "new Israel", the Christian people?
7. What is the significance of a name change? What is the origin of pseudonyms or nicknames that have existed in your family? When might it be appropriate for a modern Patriarch to give his children a "new name"?