



# THE DECEIVER

*the life of Jacob*

#MC3THEDECEIVER **MC**<sup>3</sup>



Discussion  
Gu'de

*"brotherly division"*  
02/18/24

## OUR GRUDGES AREN'T A MATCH FOR GOD'S FORGIVENESS

### The Repeats

They are the same, but *WE* change, so please discuss these with your group

- [Share the announcements (on FB thread) with your group]
- We're going to *open* by sharing God Moments about what He is doing in our lives, but save our prayer requests for the END of Pr'me. Go around and share your God Moments: how have you seen God working, either in your life or in the life of another over the past week? [Leaders: plan for a way to collect prayer requests at the end, then share them with your Pr'me]
- Is there anything that you want to share that has stood out to you so far from the current Point series?

### The Reminder

Read this section briefly to review the Point for everyone

- This Week's Point:  
**Our Grudges Aren't a Match for God's Forgiveness**
- This Week's Object Lesson:  
**life hack fails**
- This Week's Bible Passage & Focus Verse: **Genesis 29:31 - 33:20**  
*But Esau ran to meet Jacob and embraced him; he threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. And they wept. (v. 33:4, NIV)*

## The Reflection

Discuss these to go deeper, *and more personal*, into applying the Point

- What great “life hacks” have you learned and attempted?
- Have you experienced a life hack fail yourself, or saw in another?
- In the Point, we looked at two main categories where Jacob tried to hack forgiveness with his brother Esau. Using Genesis 32:3-8, 32:13-21, & 33:1-3, list the multiple, specific things that Jacob tried.
- What might each of these things look like if done by us today?
- Compare Genesis 32:9-12 with Genesis 33:4-9. Based on these passages, which of Jacob’s life hacks [previous Q] changed Esau?
- People get caught up trying to find hacks--to DO things--to change someone else’s heart. What do some of these hacks look like?
- But we forget that God is the One who actually changes hearts, no matter how big the offense! What did God change in each of these:
  - *God Changed Joseph to Forgive*
    - The offense: Read Genesis 37:19-28
    - The heart change: Read Genesis 45:3-8; 50:19-21
  - *God Changed Saul to Forgive*
    - The offense: Read Acts 7:57-8:1; 9:1-2
    - The heart change: Read Acts 9:3-21
  - *God ...Forgives.*
    - The offense: Read Luke 15:11-16
    - The heart change: Read Luke 15:17-24
- What tends to be your go-to hack for trying to change someone else’s heart? Why do you think you tend to go there?
- Think of a relationship in your life where you need God to change someone’s heart. What “hacks” have you tried to “fix” this?
- What keeps you from going to God *first*? What is holding you back?
- Share a name of someone that you would like to see God restore a relationship [if you’re not comfortable giving a name, “person X” is fine]. Assign one name to each in your group to pray for this week!