

LIFE'S HEALING CHOICES—PART 5
“MAKING CHANGES!”
Pastor Andy Shaffer—August 7, 2022

Matthew 5:6—“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.”

(Good News)—“Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires; God will satisfy them fully!”

The Transformation Choice:

“I voluntarily submit to every change God wants to make in my life & I humbly ask Him to remove my character defects.”

Phases of Growth God Uses To Change Us:

1) Conflict

Genesis 31:1-2—“Jacob heard that Laban’s sons were saying, ‘Jacob has taken everything our father owned and has gained all this wealth from what belonged to our father. And Jacob noticed that Laban’s attitude toward him was not what it had been.’”

Genesis 32:6-7—“When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, ‘We went to your brother Esau, and now he is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him,’ In great fear and distress Jacob divided the people who were with him into two groups...”

Genesis 32:9-11—“Then Jacob prayed, ‘O God...Lord...I am unworthy of all the kindness and faithfulness you have shown your servant...Save me, I pray...for I am afraid...’”

2) Crisis

Genesis 32:23-24—“So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. 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.”

3) Commitment

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.”

4) Confession

Genesis 32:27—“The man asked him, ‘What is your name?’ ‘Jacob’ he answered.”

5) Conversion

Genesis 32:28-30—“Then the Man said, ‘Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome... Then He blessed him there. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, ‘It is because I saw God face to face...’”

When God does His deepest work in our life, He does it in our identity!

Genesis 32:31 (NLT)—“The sun was rising as Jacob left Peniel, and he was limping because of the injury to his hip.”

Don't Give Up!