



MONDAY, June 22, 2009: *“There are fewer curses worse than the curse of self-sufficiency. We desperately need to know how much we need Him.”* \_Joseph M. Stowell, Shepherding the Church into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, p. 68

☐ Genesis 32:24 **And Jacob was left alone...**

We do not like to hear it, but the tipping point for most of our breakthroughs comes at that moment when we are most alone.

You may not realize it at the time, but at that moment when you have run out of options and you have run out of time, at that moment when your resources have been used up, and at that moment when family and friends are nowhere to be found – at that moment...the chances are that you are closer to your breakthrough than at any other time.

That was the case for Jacob. He had run as far as he could go. He was tired, weary, afraid and alone. It was in that hour, when he was at his wits end, that he encountered God. All night he wrestled with God and when the sun cut through the darkness on a brand new day, Jacob was a changed man.

My dear friend, you may feel like someone must have told me exactly about you and your circumstances. “Alone.” “Out of options.” “At your wit’s end.” These may describe you to a tee. But believe me, the sun can rise again in your dark hour. And as it did for Jacob, it will shed light on a brand new journey!

The key is to stay focused on God. Struggle! Fight! Like a drowning man, reach out in faith for Him. But whatever you do, don’t give up and don’t lose hope. Your breakthrough is on the way.  
**SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 38:15-16

TUESDAY, June 23, 2009:  
*“Something can be true but not the truth.”* \_Glenn Walters, sermon preached on May 13, 2009

Recently I attended one of our Wednesday Youth services. Besides the fact that I was richly blessed by the service as a whole, Pastor Glenn, our Student Pastor, preached a powerful message on truth.

In that message he made a statement that made me really think. He said, *“Something can be true but not the truth.”* At first glance, that sounds like a contradiction. But think about it a moment. It does not matter what the sin may be – adultery or altering a report to make yourself look good, it is true that sin can be fun for a season and even temporarily advantageous.

But the truth is that sin destroys your life. Do not be fooled by the shallow truth that focuses on the moment. Anchor your soul and all that you hold dear to the eternal truth that comes only from God. In the long run, you will always come out ahead if you do...and that’s the truth!

**SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 117:2, John 3:21

WEDNESDAY, June 24, 2009:  
*“Years ago I came to the realization that the most poignant of all lyric tensions stems from the awareness that we are living and dying at once. To embrace such knowledge and yet to remain compassionate and whole – that is the consummation of the endeavor of art.”* \_Stanley Kunitz (U.S. Poet Laureate)

☐ John 19:30 ... **he said, “It is finish.” Then he bowed his head and died.**

I’ll never be remembered as a cook, but I can brew a pretty good pot of coffee. For all you non-coffee drinkers I can assure you that there is an art to brewing coffee. I’ll not bore you with the details, but here is the point...when I start I do so to finish. I’m not interested in just going through some activities, I want to finish; I want to enjoy a good, fresh cup of coffee brewed just the way I like it.

Yet in life, it is possible to get so caught up in living our lives day-to-day that we forget all about finishing. So today let me ask you, “What are you finishing?” I didn’t ask, “What are you doing?” Everybody is doing something, but few are doing so with the end in mind.

Finishing well is an art. Finishing a marriage well doesn’t happen by accident. Finishing a career well is not luck. Finishing a life well requires a lot of intentionality. Well doing is good, but hearing “Well done” is everything.

**SCRIPTURE:** 2 Timothy 4:7

THURSDAY: June 25, 2009:  
*“To be clever enough to get all that money, you must be stupid enough to want it.”* \_G. K. Chesterton

☐ Genesis 33:9 **And Esau said, “I have enough, my brother...”**

When was the last time you have heard someone say, I have enough.” This is one of the most profound and seldom heard statements in the history of mankind.

Wars are fought over wanting more. Lives are ruined in the pursuit for more. Marriages fail because of the pressures of going after more. The endless pursuit of more is the unhappy lot of most.

However, true success is being able to say, “I have enough.”

To be able to say this you must be at peace with yourself. To be able to say, “I have enough” means your life is about more than just being secure or winning or being first. To be able to say, “I have enough” means that you can get out of the fast lane and enjoy life. You can walk away from a deal and another dollar and go after the things that money can’t buy.

Bottom line, being able to say, “I have enough” is the cry of a real winner.

**SCRIPTURE:** 1 Timothy 6:7-