



Group Leader Guide & Discussion Questions

“Jacob: God Will Bless Your Mess; Not Your Mask” – Anti-Hero

July 6-7, 2019

Group Creed

We come together as a Group with the goal of Spiritual Formation; encouraging one another to become the same kind of person that Jesus is, so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

// Message Summary

Ben continues the series **Anti-Hero** with the story of **Jacob**, found in **Genesis 25:19-32:32**. Jacob is infamous for deceiving others to get what he wanted that wasn't his. Likewise, many of us wear “masks” or create false versions of ourselves in order to be successful or hide things we don't like about ourselves. But, as with Jacob, God desires to bless the REAL version of us, not the fake version. He sees who we really are and loves us despite our shortcomings. He wants to bless our mess, not our mask.

// In Preparation

Ben's challenge this week to everyone is to “take off the mask” before God and those that are closest to you. Hopefully, your group is a place full of close people, so be prepared for some people in your group to go for it and “take off their mask.” This could look many different ways, but be prepared to have grace and love for people wherever they are as they are vulnerable and trusting of you. Keep an eye out for shamers in your group, as well, and do your best to steer the conversation to a place of grace. Shame will just re-solidify the mask, which is the opposite of what we are aiming to do!

// Discussion Questions

1. As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?
2. Have you ever wanted to be someone or something else?
3. Do you find it hard to believe that God is deeply in love with the REAL you?
4. What would it look like for you to “remove your mask” with those closest to you? Is there something you have been putting off telling someone? What might spiral out of control in your life if you keep hiding behind a mask?
5. What is one thing you can share with the group this week that will let them know a little bit more about the REAL you?

// References

biblehub.com/timeline