

# What God Wants To Do

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## I. Introduction.

A. Texts: 1 Corinthians 3; Genesis 32.

B. Christ is the foundation. What we build on that foundation will be tested.

C. Choices are controllable or uncontrollable.

1. Controllable: time, counsel (Proverbs 13:20), use of gifts, how we relate to the lost.

2. Uncontrollable circumstances test our response.

## II. Esau threatened Jacob.

A. Jacob had a plan.

1. He divided the group into two.

2. Jacob prayed.

3. Jacob sent gifts to Esau.

4. He sent his wives and children over the brook. Jacob was alone, but God promised that he would never leave him.

B. God ambushed Jacob.

1. God is the God of love, but there will be times when he ambushes us.

2. The last thing that Jacob needed was to be crippled when he was probably about to go into battle, but God does this.

3. God cripples us for our good.

C. Jacob demanded a blessing. (1 Chronicles 4:10)

1. It is not selfish to ask for a blessing.

2. God ambushes us so that we might drop the mask.

3. Our masks take different forms.

4. Jacob had to learn to depend upon God instead of his own conniving.

5. After he dropped the mask, he was able to be reconciled to his brother.

## Application questions:

1. How has pain played a role in your spiritual growth?

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2. What lesson can we learn from the unexpected surprise Jacob received? Explain.

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3. What does it look like for you to cling to God in the midst of trials?

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