



DATE	November 11, 2018
SPEAKER	Nathan Jager
TITLE	Naming Rights
SERIES	Do you know who you are? God does. Often times we spend our life pretending to be someone we're not. Let's take a closer look at the life of Jacob as we discover why God can't bless who you're pretending to be.

Nathan continues the story of Jacob and how, though God, we can “rename” our greatest sorrows and turn them into our strengths.

- **Genesis 35:16**

- *“Then they moved on from Bethel. While they were still some distance from Ephrath, Rachel began to give birth and had great difficulty.”*

- Jacob and Rachel had prayed and pleaded with God to have another son. They learned that sometimes God will answer our prayers, but it will cost us more than we ever imagined.

- Jesus expands on this subject in Luke 12:48.

- Do you negotiate with God? How? Why?

- What if great strength comes from great sorrow? Think about someone you admire because of their strength. Have they been through great sorrow?

- **Genesis 35:18**

- *“As she breathed her last—for she was dying—she named her son Ben-Oni. But his father named him Benjamin.”*

- Ben-Oni means “son of my sorrow”. Benjamin means “son of my right hand”.

- The right hand was the hand of blessing - the very thing Jacob had spent his whole life trying to get. Jacob refused to forever view this child through the lens of what brought him into the world.

- What are you going through that you can rename?

- **Romans 8:28**

- *“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”*

- Have you ever felt that God was using you? Why did you feel that way?

- Aw Tozer said, “It is doubtful whether God can bless a man greatly until He has hurt him deeply.”

- Have you ever experienced a blessing in disguise? How are you affected by it now compared to then?

Remember that only your heavenly Father can name/label you, because he is your maker! You are only being the way God created you when you are fully trusting Him. “I will not dwell on what was lost. I will build on what remains!”