

Small Groups materials - Restoration

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S2	Process	Learning Activity	Material	Time
intro	-Welcome guests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ Welcome everyone ▸ Open in prayer ▸ My name is _____, I will be giving the talk today. ▸ so today we're going to look at Restoration. <p>'What is restoration?' - discuss.</p>		5:00
	-Introduction	<p>Read the Divine Principle Introduction to restoration excerpt:</p> <p>"The providence of restoration refers to God's work to restore human beings to our original, unfallen state so that we may fulfill the purpose of creation. Human beings fell from the top of the growth stage and have been held under Satan's dominion ever since. To restore human beings, God works to cut off Satan's influence. We must have the original sin removed before we can sever Satan's bonds and be restored to the state before the Fall. This is possible only when we are born anew through the Messiah the True Parent."</p>		5:00
main program	-Video	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ watch video clip 29a The Creation is Waiting for Man to be Restored ! <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pKWGdSCXQHA</p>	-youtube	
	-Howto link to talk	(Main theme is to relate the providence of restoration to our own lives today. - Expand on this point)		

	<p>-Reading -Discussion</p>	<p>▸ Jacob's primary desire should have been to share all the blessings he had with his brothers and parents, and thus to become harmonized in oneness with them. Jacob led the lonely life of a shepherd, but all during this time his ultimate purpose was not to gain money or the material blessing. He missed his native home, for he was highly blessed by God, being born into the family of Isaac, in the lineage of Abraham.</p> <p>He felt sorry for what he had done to his elder brother. He thought it was understandable for Esau to want to kill him when he had taken away the birthright by cheating; and he was sympathetic with his brother. But what Jacob had that was acceptable as an offering to God was that the more difficult and lonely his situation became due to the aggravating persecution from Laban, the deeper attachment he felt towards his parents and brothers. This made him always wonder what he could do for their sake; this was the primary question.</p> <p>He thought that he could readily share with everybody at home what he had acquired by spending 21 long years of drudgery. If he felt the least bit self-centered, thinking that all the things he acquired belonged to him alone, Jacob, could have ended his course in failure. This was the case because God blessed Jacob not for his own welfare and prosperity, but to have him lay the foundation on which all the Israelites could enjoy the blessing after he had organized the people by his own efforts. In other words, Jacob had to think in terms of public benefit in order to succeed. When he completed his 21 year course successfully, God blessed him with all the material wealth and all the other things necessary for his mission.</p> <p>You know the details of the prolongation of his course from 7 years to 21 years. God blessed Jacob in his 21-year course to such an extent that even Laban became fearful of him, and wanted to prevent him from growing wealthier. As you well know, during his 3 day course Jacob stole all the things he needed. You know also that when Jacob was well on his way, Laban caught up with him and quarreled with him over the idol which he had stolen. If Leah, in sympathy with her father, had told him the truth about the idol, Jacobs 21-year course would have come to nothing. But Leah deceived her father, Laban.</p> <p>What is interesting here is that Leah cheated her father, and Jacob also cheated his father. If Leah and Jacob had both deceived their fathers for their own benefit, it would have been wrong. However, they did this for God and His people, and we know that this is a necessary condition in the course of restoration. Leah was strictly on the side of Jacob. If Leah had cheated her own father, this would mean that she had become completely one with Jacob. In terms of</p>		10:00
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		<p>or become trapped under satanic conditions. Both God and Satan concentrated their attention on that.</p> <p>In offering the sacrifice, Jacob had to excel Esau, not only on the physical level, but on the spiritual level also; in other words he had to subjugate Satan. On the way back home he would pray at the ford of Jabbok desperately that God should help Esau to welcome him without being hostile to him, because he knew that if Esau was going to kill him his mission would be a failure and dissipate. He knew that his way was not for himself as an individual, but for the restoration through indemnity for Adam's failure of being subjugated by the archangel.</p> <p>Therefore, Jacob had to first subjugate the archangel, who was in the position of Esau on the spiritual level, before being able to actually subjugate Esau on the physical level. Since Adam fell by being subjugated by the archangel, then the physical Esau was in the position of fallen Adam. In order to restore all the particulars through indemnity, Jacob had to restore on both levels, first subjugating the archangel. Therefore, he wrestled with the archangel at the ford of Jabbok all through the night for success on the spiritual level. In wrestling with the archangel, he had to risk all his possessions and his children, including himself and his wife. What was the motivation and significance of the wrestling? If Jacob should be defeated in wrestling by the archangel, all his possessions, all his children, including himself and his wife, which should have all been unified in wholesome oneness, could have been taken away or torn into pieces by satanic hands. However, if he should win, all those things would belong to him and God. They fought all through the night until they were both exhausted, but the wrestling was not over yet. How do you think the match went? They were not evenly matched all the way. There were times when Jacob was almost defeated. What do you think? Was it Jacob who fell more times or the archangel? It is understandable that Jacob fell more times, but he would not give up even though he faced death; he fought desperately to win over the archangel. He would cling to the archangel again and again at the risk of his life. That's what made him fierce. That's exactly what happens in our course of life in faith. You are desperate to win over Satan, but Satan is so fierce that you stumble over and over again. No matter how many times you may be on the verge of defeat, you will attack him again and again. The archangel, too, was in a difficult situation. He may have beaten Jacob, but he could not kill him, since he would be liable to judgment if he did. So, the archangel too was in a most difficult situation.</p> <p>In the meantime dawn was breaking and the archangel knew that he</p>		
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		<p>had to leave Jacob at daybreak because the archangel belonged to darkness. So, just before the dawn, he became desperate and he broke Jacob's thigh. How do you think the archangel broke Jacob's thigh? He must have done this in a moment when Jacob was weak. If, at that moment, Jacob was not being defeated, he could not have done that. Still, Jacob could not give up. Even though his thigh was broken, Jacob would not give up. At the thought of loss he became even more furious, and attacked the archangel again and again. He would rather lose his life in attacking than lose the battle.</p> <p>At last the archangel had to give in. At last he could not but say to Jacob, "You have won the battle, you are the victor. " He had to bless Jacob with the name "Israel", which meant "victor." All, through human history, Jacob was the only one who wrestled with the archangel and was victorious over him. He well deserved the name of "the victor." That is how the word "Israel" - which means "victor" - came into being. You must know that in being victorious over the archangel, he battled at the risk of his life, and that you, too, in your life in faith, must fight against Satan at the risk of your lives. Jacob's subjugation of the angel on the spiritual level signified Jacob's reversal of the situation that occurred in the Garden of Eden, where our first human Ancestors were subjugated by the archangel.</p> <p>› Questions for discussion Does everyone know this story? Has anyone been in a situation being either Esau or Jacob? What lessons can we learn and how can we relate it to our life?</p>		
Conclusion	-Conclusion	<p>› Finish with Pray › Thank you for coming</p>		3:00