

**RaYBaSH's Torah Thoughts for Kids**  
**Parashah #8 Vayishlach "And He Sent"**  
**Gen. 32:4-36:43**  
**By: Yehudah ben Shomeyr**

Did you ever have a nickname? Maybe your called "Bubba" because your like everyone's little brother. Maybe you're called, "Pepsi," because that's all you drunk at summer camp. Maybe you are called, "Princess," because you are Daddy's little girl. Or maybe, "Commando," because no one can beat you at capture the flag or king of the hill.

One usually gets a nickname because of a personality or character trait. Like some tall and skinny people are called, "Slim," or great cooks are called, "Cookie." Some nicknames come about because of a great achievement. Like someone who saved someone from drowning may be called, "Aquaman," or maybe someone named Tim on the football team made the winning touchdown or always gets at least one touchdown per game and is called, "Touchdown Tim."

God gives us new names to His people. Like Jacob, his name meant, "Heel Catcher," probably because when he was born he was seen grabbing his brother Esau's heel, as if to say, "Hey, come back here, I was supposed to be born first!" Well, God changed his name to Israel, meaning, "He who wrestles with G-d and won." Remember the story where Jacob wrestled the Angel of the LORD (God in disguise) and won the blessing? Well, that's where he got his new name. I wonder what Name God may give you?

Judah – "One who praises God"  
Solomon – "One who brings the peace of God"

Or maybe a not so good name, maybe something like:

The Iniquiter – "One who always breaks God's Torah"  
Lekem – "One who is a fool"

It all depends on your actions. So do things that would cause God to give you a good name.

Shabbat Shalom and Shavuah Tov!

-- Yehudah ben Shomeyr

**MEMORY VERSES:**

- And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved. – Gen. 32:30