

Journeys OF Faith

The God of

Abraham • Isaac • Jacob

Journeys OF Faith

Like Father - Like Son

Genesis 26

“Only he who can say, “The Lord is
the strength of my life” can say,
“Of whom shall I be afraid?””

Alexander MacLaren

1 Now there was a famine in the land, besides the previous famine that had occurred in the days of Abraham. So Isaac went to Gerar, to Abimelech king of the Philistines.

Common Problem 1

- “Now there was a famine in the land; so Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn there, for the famine was severe in the land.” Genesis 12:10

Journeys OF Faith

- From the South of Negev
- To the plains of Philistia
- Back to the wells of Abraham - Beersheba



“A perfect faith would lift us
absolutely above fear.”

George Macdonald

2 The LORD appeared to him and said, “Do not go down to Egypt; stay in the land of which I shall tell you.

Uncommon Meeting 2

- First time for Isaac – recorded in Genesis
- Do NOT go to Egypt!
- Stay in the Land
- I will tell you more

Journeys OF Faith

Mistakes are easy to repeat –
Character is harder to build!

3 Sojourn in this land and I will be with you and bless you, for to you and to your descendants I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath which I swore to your father Abraham.

4 I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven, and will give your descendants all these lands; and by your descendants all the nations of the earth shall be blessed;

5 because Abraham obeyed Me and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes and My laws.”

Common Promise 3-5

- Stay where I sent you
- Stay where I promised your father
- I am repeating my promises to you!
- Abraham did mess up but also lived a life of faith
- Judge by the sum – not the best or worst of life!

Journeys OF Faith

“Meet your fears with faith.”
Max Lucado

Journeys OF Faith

6 So Isaac lived in Gerar.

Uncommon Faith 6

- Not sure why – God said so!
- Not sure how long – God will tell me later.
- Not sure what to do with famine – God will provide!
- Faith is trusting at the question – not with the answer!

Journeys OF Faith

“Fear is faithlessness”
George Macdonald

7 When the men of the place asked about his wife, he said, "She is my sister," for he was afraid to say, "my wife," thinking, "the men of the place might kill me on account of Rebekah, for she is beautiful."

8 It came about, when he had been there a long time, that Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out through a window, and saw, and behold, Isaac was caressing his wife Rebekah.

9 Then Abimelech called Isaac and said,
“Behold, certainly she is your wife! How then
did you say, ‘She is my sister’?” And Isaac said
to him, “Because I said, ‘I might die on
account of her.’”

10 Abimelech said, “What is this you have done to us? One of the people might easily have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us.”

11 So Abimelech charged all the people, saying, “He who touches this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.”

Common Fear 7-11

- Alone in a strange land
- Out-numbered and short-handed
- Deceit instead of Depend!
- Be sure your sin will find you out! Numbers 32:23
- Great offense to offer an impure wife to king
- Abimelech secures his safety and for family

“I’m not afraid of the devil. He can’t handle the One to whom I’m joined.” A.W. Tozer

12 Now Isaac sowed in that land and reaped in the same year a hundredfold. And the LORD blessed him,

Journeys OF Faith

13 and the man became rich, and continued to grow richer until he became very wealthy;

14 for he had possessions of flocks and herds and a great household, so that the Philistines envied him.

Uncommon Blessing 12-14

- When confronted – he confessed
- David – ‘a man after God’s own heart’
- Repentance is the attribute not sinlessness!
- A saint is defined by how we are forgiven not how we forge a life of righteousness!

“I more fear what is within
me than what comes from
without.” Martin Luther

What is God asking me to trust?
Where is God directing me to go?
How can I grow in my faith?

Journeys OF Faith

Going with God through my fears
NOT expecting
God delivering me from my fears!