

GOD BLESSES ISAAC'S FAMILY

Genesis 26:1-35

Lesson 12b

Key Verse: 26:3a

"Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you..."

*LIFE AMONG THE PHILISTINES (1-22)

1. When another famine arose in the land, where did Isaac go?

Where did he evidently plan to go? Why?

2. What command did God give Isaac? (2-3a) What personal promise did God give him?

What was the larger promise on which this specific one was based? (3b-4) What was the example of faith set by Abraham? (5)

3. How did Isaac respond to God's command? What does this show about him? (6)

Why might he have been afraid of the Philistines? What event reveals his fear? (7-8)

(Who had done something very similar to this?)

4. How was his lie exposed? How was the unseen hand of God protecting Isaac

from his own foolishness? What does the resolution of this problem show about Abimelech?

5. How did God bless Isaac? (12-13) How did God's abundant blessing affect

Isaac's relations with his Philistine neighbors? How did they harass him in Gerar? (12-16)

6. Why did Isaac move out of the city into the valley Gerar? (16) How did he survive in the valley? How did the Philistine herdsmen continue to harass him? (17-21)

7. How did he deal with the Philistine herdsmen when they demanded his wells? Think about his well-digging life. What could he learn? Why might this life have been difficult for him and for Rebekah? (16-22)

*DO NOT BE AFRAID (23-35)

8. Why did he name his well "Rehoboth"? (22) Is this name a sure faith or a vague hope? Why did he leave there and go to Beersheba? What happened at Beersheba? Why did he need this meeting with the Lord?

9. How did Isaac respond to God's words of promise? What does this show about him? (25)

10. When Abimelech came to see Isaac again, what change can we see in Abimelech? What did Isaac ask him and how did he respond? How can we account for this change?

11. How did Isaac receive Abimelech? What does this event show about Isaac's quiet victory in the land? How had God helped him? What can we learn from Isaac's faith?