**In GEN 26: The Up’s & Down’s Of Following In My Father’s Footsteps…**

**-Pastor Dan**

***4****… “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.”* ***5****“Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.”*

***6****Then he said, “I am the God of your father,* ***the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob****.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.* Exodus 3:4-6

**#1) … Down: HEADING In The Wrong Direction Due To A Famine.**

*Now there was a* ***famine*** *in the land—besides the previous* ***famine in Abraham’s***

*time—and Isaac went to* ***Abimelek*** *king of the Philistines in Gerar.****2****The* ***Lord***

***appeared to Isaac*** *and said, “****Do not go down to Egypt****; live in the land where I tell you to live.*Genesis 26:1-2

**#2) … Up: Isaac OBEYED God In Where To Live.**

***3Stay in this land for a while****, and* ***I will be with you****and will* ***bless you****. For to you and your descendants I will give all these lands and will confirm the oath I swore to your father Abraham.* Genesis 26:3

***4****I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and will give them all these lands, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed,****5because Abraham obeyed*** *me and did everything I required of him, keeping my commands, my decrees and my instructions.”****6So Isaac stayed in Gerar****.* Genesis 26:4-6

**#3) … Down: Isaac LIED About His Wife, Rebekah.**

***7****When the men of that place asked him about his wife, he said,* ***“She is my sister,”*** *because he was afraid to say, “She is my wife.” He thought, “The men of this place might kill me on account of Rebekah, because she is beautiful.”* Genesis 26:7 (See Jeremiah 17:7)

***8****When Isaac had been there a long time, Abimelek king of the Philistines*

*looked down from a window and* ***saw Isaac caressing his wife Rebekah.***

Genesis 26:8

**#4) … Down: Isaac REBUKED By An Unbeliever.**

***9****So Abimelek summoned Isaac and said, “She is really your wife! Why did you say, ‘She is my sister’?” Isaac answered him, “Because I thought I might lose my life on account of her.”* ***10****Then Abimelek said, “What is this you have done to us? One of the men might well have slept with your wife, and* ***you would have brought guilt upon us****.”* ***11****So Abimelek gave orders to all the people: “Anyone who harms this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.”*

Genesis 26:9-11 (See Genesis 20:9-11)

**#5) … UP: God’s Love, Mercy & GRACE Abound - In Spite Of My Sin.**

***12****Isaac planted crops in that land and the same year reaped a hundredfold, because* ***the Lord blessed him****.****13****The man became rich, and his wealth continued to grow until he became very wealthy.*

***14****He had so many flocks and herds and* ***servants that the Philistines envied him****.* Genesis 26:12-14

**All About The WELLS – Water is LIFE!** Genesis 26:15-22

***23****From there he went up to Beersheba.****24****That night the****Lord***

***appeared to him*** *and said, “I am the God of your father Abraham.*

***Do not be afraid, for I am with you****; I will bless you and will increase the number of your descendants for the sake of my servant Abraham.”* ***25****Isaac built an altar there and called on the name of the Lord. There he pitched his tent, and there his servants dug a well.* Genesis 26:23-25

***26****Meanwhile, Abimelek had come to him from Gerar…****27****Isaac asked them, “Why have you come to me, since you were hostile to me and sent me away?”* ***28****They answered, “We saw clearly that the Lord*

*was with you; so we said, ‘There ought to be a sworn agreement between us’—between us and you.* ***Let us make a treaty with you******29****that you will do us no harm, just as we did not harm you but always treated you well and sent you away peacefully.* ***And now you are blessed by the Lord****.”* Genesis 26:26-29