

## Questions week beginning 6 July 2025

1. Last weekend we celebrated our 43<sup>rd</sup> Church anniversary. Have you got any 'stand out' memories from the last 12 months that you would like to share?
2. What would you like to see happen during the next 12 months?

### READ Genesis 26:1-11

3. During a time of famine people often went to the prosperous region of Egypt to get supplies. God however told Isaac not to do that but rather to *"live in the land where I tell you to live"* (v2).

- i. Do you think God still has specific places that He wants people to go to?
- ii. Did you sense God leading you to where you live?
- iii. Why do you think God didn't want Isaac to go to Egypt?
- iv. Are there any places that you think God wouldn't want us to go when we are in a time of need?

4. God told Isaac that he was living in the outworking of the covenant blessing that He had established with his father Abraham (v3-5). Abraham had also been directed to a land of God's choosing where He promised to bless him (see Genesis 12:1-3) and even more interestingly had also lied about his wife being his sister! (Genesis 12:10-20).

- i. What family traits have you inherited that have benefitted you?
- ii. Are there any family traits that you have inherited that have hindered you in your life?
- iii. Do you think our present/future HAS to be shaped by our past?

### READ Genesis 26:12-18

5. Some Bible teachers use this experience of Isaac's financial prosperity (v12-13) to suggest that God wants the Church today to be rich.

- i. How do you respond to such teaching?
- ii. **Read Philippians 4:10-13.** What does Paul have to say on the subject?

6. Out of jealousy for Isaac's prosperity, the Philistines filled in the wells that his father's servants had dug (v15). Why did they do that – what would they have expected to happen as a result?

7. When speaking to a woman at a well, Jesus referred to Himself as bringing *"a spring of water welling up to eternal life"* (John 4:13-14) and later to a large crowd shouted *"Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them."* (John 7:37-38).

- i. What things might 'block' this spiritual well so that we don't access today what Jesus is offering us?
- ii. What might we need to do to unblock this well so that we can be refreshed by all that Jesus offers?

### READ Genesis 26:19-25

8. Isaac's servants didn't only reopen old wells that had been blocked but they also dug new wells to access even more of the water available to them.

- i. What might it look like for you to "dig new wells" in your spiritual life?
- ii. Do you sense any "new wells" that God would like us as a church to dig?

## PERSONAL QUESTIONS TO PONDER THIS WEEK

- i. Can you remember a time when you were more excited/ on fire for the Lord than you are now? If so, what may have blocked your well and what do you need to do to unblock it to rekindle the love and zeal that you once had for the Lord?
- ii. Isaac received a hundredfold crop (v12). Have you settled for less than what the Lord is offering you.