Genesis 26:1-6, 12-25

The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

• What is the hardest physical job you've ever done? Why was it so hard? How long did it last? Was it worth it in the end?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

Intro:

- Look back at the notes you took on Sunday. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you heard (a new idea, an application, an illustration, a challenge, a question, or a new way of thinking)?
- **Read** Genesis 26:1-6, 12-25 together. In the message on Sunday, Pastor Curt DeGraaff posed an important question: What do you do when your well runs dry?

Context:

- Genesis 26 tells the story of Isaac's conflict with the Philistines over water. Pastor Curt talked about what it was like to try to find fresh water in Old Testament times. What do you remember about what Curt said about digging wells?
- Look at the picture of the two vials of water on the next page. The murky water from the Dead Sea represents a life without the joy of the Lord. The clear water from the Jordan River pictures the abundant and eternal life found in Christ. Which vial best illustrates your life right now? Explain.

Like Isaac, we are also faced with trials today:

- Trials directly from God (vs. 1)
- Trials from personal sin (vs. 7-11)
- Trials from enemy animosity (vs. 14-21)
- Trials from family (vs. 34-35)
- · Which of these sources of trials are you most familiar with?
- · What is your normal response to these trials?

Like Isaac, it may be time for you to dig another well:

- To dig another well, we must abide in Christ, remain in Him, and rest in His promises. What makes it hard for you to abide, remain, and rest in Christ?
- Circumstances, people, things, and worry will try to steal your joy this week but none of these can take Jesus from you. Digging a well is hard work, but is definitely worth the effort. What will you do this week to dig deep and find the pure water of joy in Jesus?
 - Tell someone in your Cell Group and then check back with them a few days from now.

PRAY WITH EACH OTHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that we will stay close to Jesus the spring that never runs dry.
- If you don't already do this, consider splitting up men and women for your prayer time this week.



