



Isaac: Lessons in Failure and Faith
Hebrews 11:20

Hebrews 11:20 (NIV)

“By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.”

Three Key “takeaways” from Isaac’s life:

I. Faithfulness must be Caught as well as Taught

- **A Pattern of Faithful Prayer**

Genesis 24:63-67 (ESV)

And Isaac went out to meditate in the field toward evening. And he lifted up his eyes and saw, and behold, there were camels coming. And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she dismounted from the camel and said to the servant, "Who is that man, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into the tent of Sarah his mother and took Rebekah, and she became his wife, and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Genesis 25:19-26 (ESV)

This is the account of Abraham's son Isaac. Abraham became the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah...Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was barren. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant... Isaac was sixty years old when Rebekah gave birth to them.

- **A Model of Biblical Marriage**

Genesis 24:67 (ESV)

"Then Isaac brought her into the tent of Sarah his mother and took Rebekah, and she became his wife, and he loved her."

II. Every Faithful Family is Flawed

Genesis 26:1-3 (NIV)

Now there was a famine in the land—besides the earlier famine of Abraham's time—and Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines in Gerar. The LORD appeared to Isaac and said, "Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land where I tell you to live. Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you.

Genesis 26:34-35 (NIV)

"When Esau was forty years old, he married Judith daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and also Basemath daughter of Elon the Hittite. They were a source of grief to Isaac and Rebekah."

III. The Future is better when we live by Faith

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"By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future."