

In Your Steps

Intro: Matt 28:19

called to make disciples - matt 28:19

Discipleship is scary (video)

Problem: Gal 6:4-5

your faith is not passed on genetically - Gal 6:4-5

it must be taught/modeled - Prov 22:6

Paul's lesson is clear - discipleship is about imitation - Phil 3:17-4:1

and the fruit of true discipleship - Phil 4:8-9

the problem is we can easily set a fake example - we hide our stress, our sin, our struggles and our shortcomings hoping to set a good example when all we are doing is setting up an idol - 1 Cor 10:13-14

the people that follow you will definitely share your burdens

Genesis 26 begs the question - will they also share your blessing

Main Idea:

they will share your stress

will they share your hope?

they will share your sin

will they share your grace?

they will share your struggles

will they share your peace?

They will share your shortcomings

will they share your testimony?

Implication: 1 Cor 4:14-17

discipleship is not do as i say - it is do as i do - give them something to imitate

Application: 2 Cor 1:1-7

don't waste your affliction

boast in them - 2 Cor 12:1-10

let them see your stress - and show them your hope

let them see the sin - and show them your grace

let them see the struggle - and show them your peace

let them see your shortcomings - and show them your savior

video - strength from weakness -

Articles for further study:

<https://www.ligonier.org/blog/were-called-make-disciples-not-simply-converts/>

<https://www.9marks.org/answer/principle-how-does-discipleship-work/>

In Your Steps

Text

They will share your stress

Gen. 26:1 ¶ Now there was a famine in the land, besides **the former famine that was in the days of Abraham**. And Isaac went to Gerar to Abimelech king of the Philistines.

- Gen 12:10 (same stress)

Will they share your hope?

Gen. 26:2 And the LORD appeared to him and said, "Do not go down to Egypt; dwell in the land of which I shall tell you.

Gen. 26:3 Sojourn in this land, and I will be with you and will **bless** you, for to you and to your offspring I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath that I swore to Abraham your father.

Gen. 26:4 I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands. And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be **blessed**,

Gen. 26:5 because **Abraham obeyed** my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws."

- Gen 12:1-3 (burdened with the same stress -> blessed with the same hope - **God will bless**)

- Titus 2:11-14 (is this blessed hope visible in your stress?)

They will share your sin

Gen. 26:6 ¶ So Isaac settled in Gerar.

Gen. 26:7 When the men of the place asked him about his wife, he said, "**She is my sister**," for he feared to say, "My wife," thinking, "lest the men of the place should kill me because of Rebekah," because she was attractive in appearance.

Gen. 26:8 When he had been there a long time, Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out of a window and saw Isaac laughing (**play on words - mocking 21:9**) with Rebekah his wife.

Gen. 26:9 So Abimelech called Isaac and said, "Behold, she is your wife. How then could you say, 'She is my sister?'" Isaac said to him, "Because I thought, 'Lest I die because of her.'"

Gen. 26:10 Abimelech said, "What is this you have done to us? One of the people might easily have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us."

Gen. 26:11 So Abimelech warned all the people, saying, "Whoever touches this man or his wife shall surely be put to death."

- Gen 12:11-20; 20:1-12 (same sins but worse)

Will they share your grace?

Gen. 26:12 ¶ And Isaac sowed in that land and reaped in the same year a hundredfold. The LORD **blessed** him,

Gen. 26:13 and the man became rich, and gained more and more until he became very wealthy.

Gen. 26:14 He had possessions of flocks and herds and many servants, so that the Philistines envied him.

Gen. 26:15 (Now the Philistines had stopped and filled with earth all the wells that his father's servants had dug in the days of Abraham his father.)

Gen. 26:16 And Abimelech said to Isaac, "Go away from us, for you are much mightier than we."

- Gen 13:1-7 (same blessed grace - **God is blessing**)

- Eph 1:3-6 (is this blessed grace visible in your sin?)

They will share your struggles

Gen. 26:17 ¶ So Isaac departed from there and encamped in the Valley of Gerar and settled there.

Gen. 26:18 And Isaac dug again the wells of water that had been dug in the days of Abraham his father, which the Philistines had stopped after the death of Abraham. And he gave them the names that his father had given them.

Gen. 26:19 But when Isaac's servants dug in the valley and found there a well of spring water,

Gen. 26:20 the herdsmen of Gerar **quarreled** with Isaac's herdsmen, saying, "The water is ours." So he called the name of the well Esek, because they contended with him.

Gen. 26:21 Then they dug **another well**, and they quarreled over that also, so he called its name Sitnah.

Gen. 26:22 And he moved from there and dug **another well**, and they did not quarrel over it. So he called its name Rehoboth, saying, "For now the LORD has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land."

- Gen 13:8-11 (same struggles)

Will they share your peace?

Gen. 26:23 ¶ From there he went up to Beersheba.

Gen. 26:24 And the LORD appeared to him the same night and said, "I am the God of Abraham your father. Fear not, for I am with you and will **bless** you and multiply your offspring for my servant Abraham's sake."

Gen. 26:25 So he built an altar there and called upon the name of the LORD and pitched his tent there. And there Isaac's servants dug a well.

- Gen 13:14-18 (same peace - **God will keep blessing**)

- Jn 16:33 (is this blessed peace visible in your struggles?)

They will share your shortcomings

Gen. 26:26 ¶ When Abimelech went to him from Gerar with Ahuzzath his adviser and Phicol the commander of his army,

Gen. 26:27 Isaac said to them, "Why have you come to me, seeing that you hate me and have sent me away from you?"

Gen. 26:28 They said, "**We see plainly that the LORD has been with you**. So we said, let there be a sworn pact between us, between you and us, and let us make a covenant with you,

Gen. 26:29 **that you will do us no harm**, just as we have not touched you and have done to you nothing but good and have sent you away in peace. You are now the **blessed** of the LORD."

Gen. 26:30 So he made them a feast, and they ate and drank.

Gen. 26:31 In the morning they rose early and exchanged oaths. And Isaac sent them on their way, and they departed from him in peace.

Gen. 26:32 That same day Isaac's servants came and told him about the well that they had dug and said to him, "We have found water."

Gen. 26:33 He called it Shibah; therefore the name of the city is **Beersheba** to this day.

- Gen 21:23 (same stain)

Will they share your testimony?

- Gen 21:22-34 (same testimony - **God has blessed**)

- 2 Cor 4:7-18 (is this blessed testimony visible in your shortcomings?)

stress is momentary, sin is momentary, struggle and shortcoming are momentary - 2 Cor 4:16

His blessings are forever - 2 Cor 4:17-18