

## Teach Us To Pray Part 3: Digging Wells

*“When they came to the crowd, a man approached Jesus and knelt before him. “Lord, have mercy on my son,” he said. “He has seizures and is suffering greatly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. I brought him to your disciples, but they could not heal him.” “O **unbelieving** and **perverse** generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me.” Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed from that moment.” Matthew 17:14-18 NIV*

**Unbelieving:** not connected to God.

**Perverse:** too connected to the world.

*“Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, “Why couldn't we drive it out?””  
Matthew 17:19 NIV*

*“He replied, “Because you have **so little faith**. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you. But this kind does not go out except by **prayer and fasting**.”  
Matthew 17:20-21 NIV*

Prayer **connects** us to God.

Fasting **disconnects** us from the world.

- ✓ Total fast – no food just water.
- ✓ Daniel fast – juices only or specific meals.
- ✓ Nothing pleasant fast – no sweets, snacks, caffeine.
- ✓ Soul fast – no secular media, television, or music.

*“Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.” “Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?” Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”” John 4:10-14 NIV*

"So Isaac moved away to the Gerar Valley, where he set up their tents and settled down. He **reopened the wells** his father had dug, which the Philistines had filled in after Abraham's death. Isaac also restored the names Abraham had given them. Isaac's servants also dug in the Gerar Valley and discovered a well of fresh water. But then the shepherds from Gerar came and claimed the spring. "This is our water," they said, and they argued over it with Isaac's herdsmen. So Isaac named the well Esek (which means "argument")." Genesis 26:17-20 NLT

"Isaac's men then **dug another well**, but again there was a dispute over it. So Isaac named it Sitnah (which means "hostility")." Genesis 26:21 NLT

"Abandoning that one, Isaac moved on and **dug another well**. This time there was no dispute over it, so Isaac named the place Rehoboth (which means "open space"), for he said, "At last the Lord has created enough space for us to prosper in this land." Genesis 26:22 NLT

"For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have **divine power** to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 NIV

### **1. God shows up to bless him.**

"From there Isaac moved to Beersheba, where **the Lord appeared to him** on the night of his arrival. "I am the God of your father, Abraham," he said. "Do not be afraid, for **I am with you and will bless you**. I will multiply your descendants, and they will become a great nation. I will do this because of my promise to Abraham, my servant." Genesis 26:23-24 NLT

### **2. His enemies make peace with him.**

"One day King Abimelech came from Gerar with his adviser, Ahuzzath, and also Phicol, his army commander. "Why have you come here?" Isaac asked. "You obviously hate me, since you kicked me off your land." They replied, "We can plainly see that **the Lord is with you**. So we want to enter into a sworn treaty with you. Let's make a covenant. Swear that you will not harm us, just as we have never troubled you. We have always treated you well, and we sent you away from us in peace. And now look how the Lord has blessed you!" Genesis 26:26-29 NLT

### **3. He discovers the "well of the oath."**

"That very day Isaac's servants came and told him about **a new well** they had dug. "We've found water!" they exclaimed. So Isaac named the well Shibah (which means "oath"). And to this day the town that grew up there is called **Beersheba (which means "well of the oath").**" Genesis 26:32-33 NLT

"If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer." Matthew 21:22 NIV