Wide open spaces

Introduction: Sometimes life makes us feel that we are confined and that our choices are limited. God breaks us out of walled in confinements, whether those confinements are imposed on us from the outside or rooted in our thinking. He brings us out to freedom and wide open spaces.

# Genesis, chapter 26

1. Famine cannot confine us – vs.1-5

* God has promised to provide in famine – Psalms 33:18-19, Job 5:19-27
* Trust and obey when things do not look hopeful – Proverbs 3:5-6

2. Bad character cannot confine us – vs.6-11

* What one generation accepts another embraces
* Abraham told a half lie, Isaac told a whole lie, and Jacob outright deceives

3. God can command a hundredfold increase – vs.12-14

* Yielded lives are fertile ground for a hundredfold fruitfulness – Matthew 13:23
* Whatever you give up for Christ, will reap a hundredfold return – Mark 10:29-30
* God can enhance growth and multiply a harvest – Amos 9:13-15

4. The envy of others cannot confine us – vs.15-16

* The defrauding of man cannot usurp/cancel the blessings of God. Eventually, the blessings will win out – Proverbs 10:22
* Beware of envy, it is the root of much evil – James 3:16

5. Though the Philistines fill in your wells, God will bring you into wide open spaces – vs.17-22

* “Rahoboth” means “spaciousness”– Psalm 18:19
* God wants to spring up dormant gifting’s in us. The inner man is likened to a well that will spring up blessings – John 7:37-39, Isaiah 12:3
* Keep digging new wells
* Some wells bring multi-generational blessings. Consider Jacobs well – John 4:12, Psalm 145:4

