

LESSON TITLE:

FLIGHT OR FIGHT

**Life in the Word Series:
Digging Deeper
(Reclaiming Our Spiritual
Wells)**

Lesson Four:

Flight or Fight



Foundation Scripture:

John 4:14, But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.

Scripture Lesson:
Genesis 26:17-21



Genesis 26:17-21, So Isaac moved away from there and encamped in the Valley of Gerar, where he settled. Isaac reopened the wells that had been dug in the time of his father Abraham, which the Philistines had stopped up after Abraham died, and he gave them the same names his father had given them.

Isaac's servants dug in the valley and discovered a well of fresh water there. But the herders of Gerar quarreled with those of Isaac and said, "The water is ours!" So, he named the well Esek, because they disputed with him. Then they dug another well, but they quarreled over that one also; so, he named it Sitnah.

He moved on from there and dug another well, and no one quarreled over it. He named it Rehoboth, saying, “Now the Lord has given us room and we will flourish in the land.”



Lesson Four:

Flight or Fight

“I am ready for painful compromises. Peace is not made with friends. Peace is made with enemies.”

**We must come to understand
what makes enemies.**

I Corinthians 9:22, To the weak I became weak in order to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some of them.

Romans 12:17-21, Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written:

Romans 12:17-21, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good."

Biblical love has little to do with feelings; it is an action; it is an attitude.

**Isaac refused to
concentrate on how he
had been mistreated.**

**Gentleness is the
signature of God and
should be our signature
as well.**

**A self-centered attitude
produces strife.**

**Success often makes
enemies.**

Genesis 26:12-14

**We must choose to
learn from your
enemies.**

**Enemies can give us
power to take hurt.**

**Enemies give us an
opportunity to mature.**

**Biblical Attitudes
Enjoined Toward Our
Enemies.**

**Proverbs 17:5-6, He who
mocks the poor shows
contempt for their Maker,
whoever gloats over disaster
will not go unpunished**

Proverbs 24:17-18, Do not gloat when your enemy falls; when he stumbles, do not let your heart rejoice, or the LORD will see and disapprove and turn his wrath away from him.

Forgive your enemy.

**God alone is the
Sovereign Judge.**

**If revenge is what we want
more than anything else, we
can spend the rest of our lives
trying to get even.**

**Christ exemplifies a right
attitude toward our enemies.**

But I tell you who hear Me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also.

If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"We walk by providence or principle."

**“When you love your enemies, you
reveal what kind of God our God
is.”**

Follow Up Chat Questions:

- 1. What does the lesson title, Flight or Fight mean to you?**
- 2. How does term “flight or fight” relate to Isaac’s account?**
- 3. Why did Issac choose to be a peacemaker?**
- 4. Is there a blessing in “soft answers”? How so?**
- 5. Why must we avoid retaliation?**
- 6. How should we biblically respond to our enemies? Do you know any scripture references that support your response?**
- 7. What does it mean to walk by God’s principle, God’s providence?**
- 8. What resonated most about today’s lesson?**