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CHURCH • PENANG

DRES





UNWAVERING FAITH

...the FAITH Journey of
the LIFE of Abraham

GENESIS 11 to 22



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UNWAVERING RELATIONSHIP

...the *FAITH* journey of Abraham

PART I : GENESIS 11-13



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HOW DO YOU DESCRIBE YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST?

Half-way?
Hanging Mid-way?
Or In the Center?



Psalm 36:5 ESV

***“Your steadfast love, O Lord,
extends to the heavens, **your
faithfulness to the clouds.”*****

Psalm 103:17-18 ESV

“But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.”



UNWAVERING WORD

...the *FAITH* journey of Abraham

PART 2 : GENESIS 12 & 21



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Genesis 12:1-3 ESV

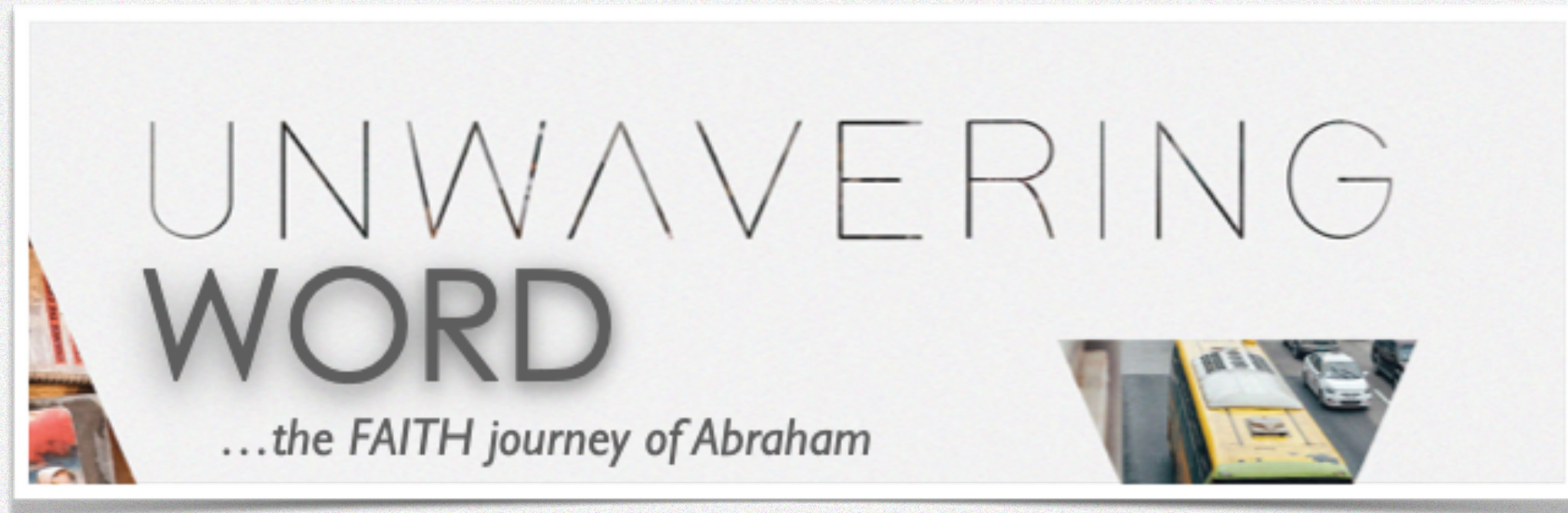
*Now **the Lord** said to **Abram**, “**Go** from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that **I will show you**. ²**And I will make of you** a great nation, and **I will bless you** and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³**I will bless** those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”*

Genesis 12:1-3 ESV

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Isaiah 6:1 ESV

***“In the year that **King Uzziah died**
I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne,
high and lifted up; and the train of his
robe filled the temple.”***



GOD'S PROMISES TO ABRAM

1. I WILL SHOW YOU THE LAND

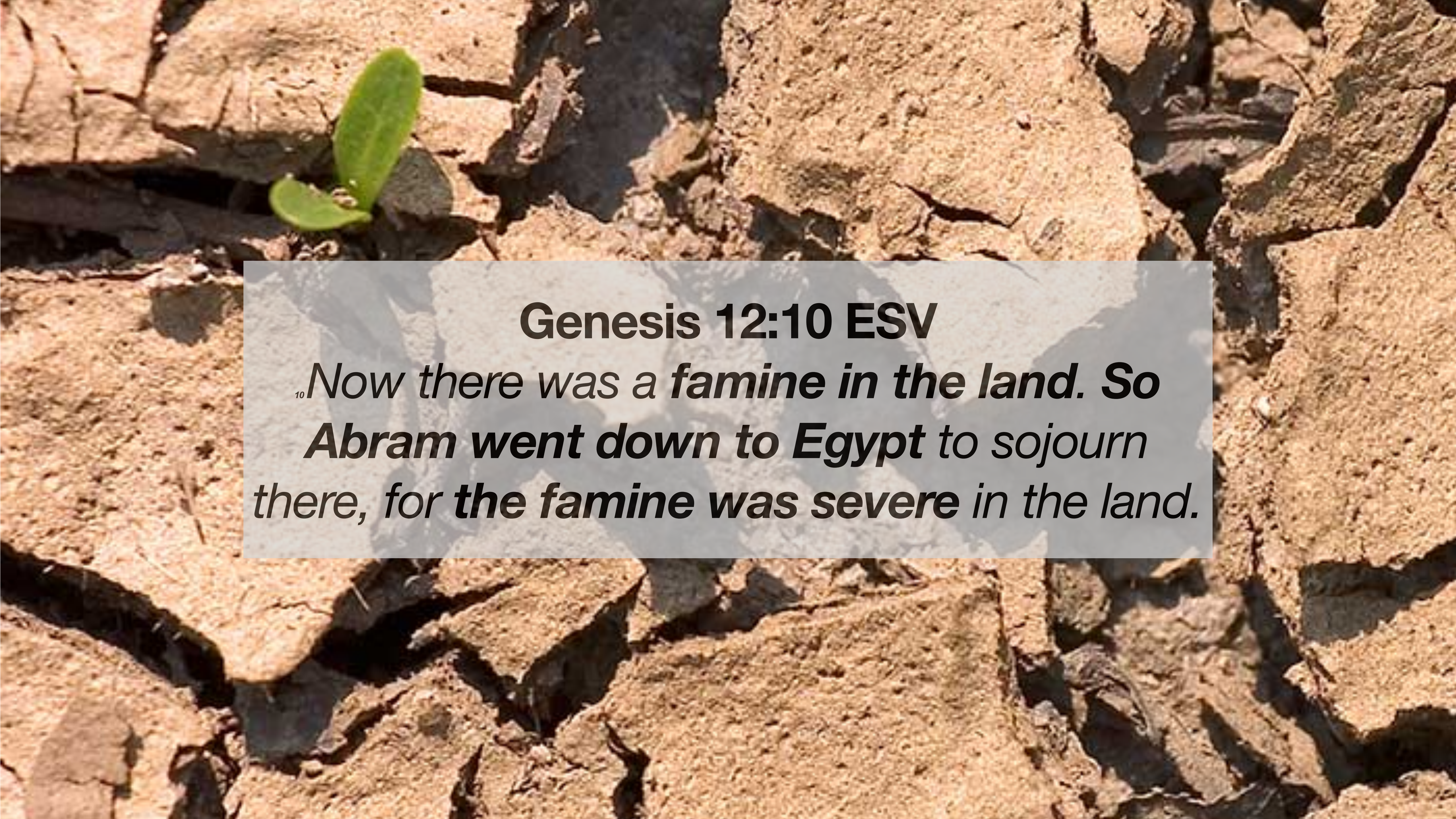
2. I WILL MAKE YOU A GREAT NATION

3. I WILL PROTECT YOU

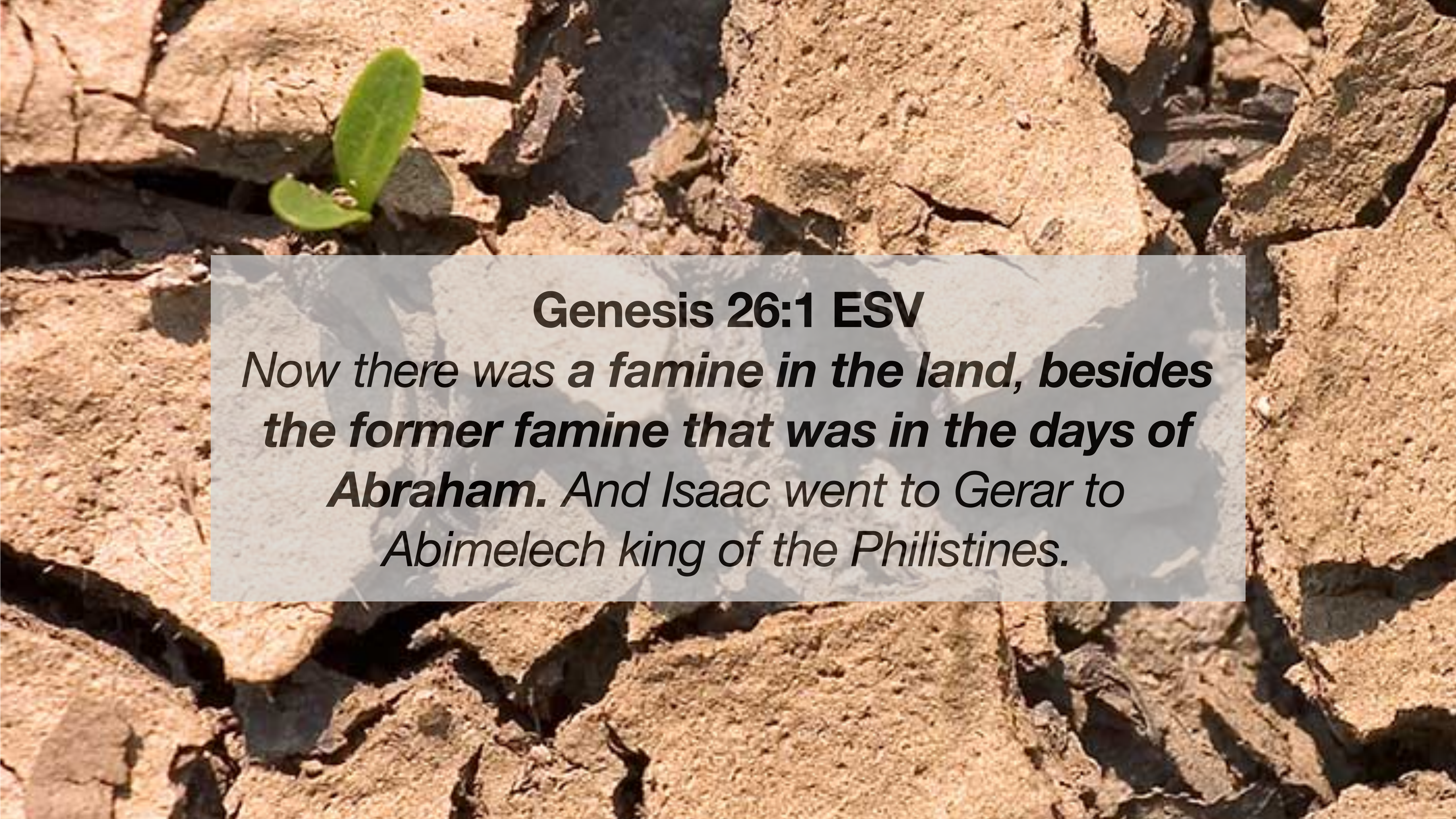
**IT SEEMS LIKE EVERY
TIME A PROMISE IS GIVEN
THERE IS A PROBLEM**

**1. God Promised that He will
SHOW Abram the LAND : BUT
there was FAMINIE in the land**





Genesis 12:10 ESV
***Now there was a famine in the land. So
Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn
there, for the famine was severe in the land.***



Genesis 26:1 ESV
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.

Psalm 73:1-3 NLT

1 Truly God is good to Israel, to those whose hearts are pure. 2 But as for me, I almost lost my footing. My feet were slipping, and I was almost gone. 3 For I envied the proud when I saw them prosper despite their wickedness.

Psalm 73:4-5 & 12 NLT

4 They seem to live such painless lives; their bodies are so healthy and strong. 5 They don't have troubles like other people; they're not plagued with problems like everyone else.

12 Look at these wicked people— enjoying a life of ease while their riches multiply

Psalm 73:16-17 NLT

16 So I tried to understand why the wicked prosper.

But what a difficult task it is!

17 Then I went into your sanctuary, O God, and I finally understood the destiny of the wicked.

**2. God Promised that He will
MAKE Abram A Great Nation :
BUT Sarai was Barren**



Genesis 11:29-30 ESV

²⁹ *And Abram and Nahor took wives. **The name of Abram's wife was Sarai,** and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and Iscah. ³⁰ Now **Sarai was barren; she had no child.***

Genesis 25:21a ESV

²¹And **Isaac** prayed to the Lord for **his wife**,
because she was barren.

NLT ²¹Isaac pleaded with the Lord on behalf
of his wife, **because she was unable to
have children.**

Genesis 29:31 ESV

*When the Lord saw that Leah was hated, he opened her womb, **but Rachel was barren.***”

**3. God Promised that He will
PROTECT Abram : BUT there
were Enemies**



Genesis 15:1 ESV

*After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, **I am your shield**; your reward shall be very great.”*

Genesis 14:8-9 & 12 ESV

*⁸Then the **king of Sodom**, the **king of Gomorrah**, the **king of Admah**, the **king of Zeboiim**, and the **king of Bela** (that is, Zoar) went out, and they joined battle in the Valley of Siddim
⁹with **Chedorlaomer king of Elam**, **Tidal king of Goiim**, **Amraphel king of Shinar**, and **Arioch king of Ellasar**, four kings against five.*

*¹²**They also captured Lot**—Abram's nephew who lived in Sodom—and carried off everything he owned.*

HOW TO STAY IN THE LAND AND STAND ON GOD'S PROMISES?



WHAT FAITH LESSONS YOU CAN DRAW FROM THE LIFE OF ABRAM?

3 Lessons



**1. FAITH REQUIRES
OBEDIENCE EVEN WHEN YOU
DO NOT UNDERSTAND IT**



Genesis 12:1 ESV

*Now **the Lord** said to Abram, “Go
from your country and your kindred
and your father's house to the land that
I will show you.*

Genesis 12:4-5 ESV

⁴So **Abram went**, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram **was seventy-five years old** when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and **they set out to go to the land of Canaan.**

**WHEN GOD SAYS IT,
HE WILL DO WHAT HE SAYS!**

2. FAITH REQUIRES BELIEVING EVEN WHEN YOU DON'T SEE IT



Genesis 12:2 ESV

***And I will make of you a great nation,
and I will bless you and make your
name great, so that you will be a
blessing.***

Genesis 21:1-3 ESV

***The Lord visited Sarah** as he had said, and the Lord did to Sarah **as he had promised**.² And **Sarah conceived** and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him.³ Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac.*

Genesis 25:21 ESV

Now ***Isaac pleaded*** with the Lord for his ***wife***, because she was barren; and ***the Lord granted*** his plea, and ***Rebekah his wife conceived***.

Genesis 30:22-23 ESV

²² Then **God remembered Rachel,**
and God listened to her and opened
her womb. ²³ And **she conceived and**
bore a son, and said, “God has taken
away my reproach.”

**WHEN GOD PROMISES, HE WILL
ALWAYS KEEP HIS PROMISES.**

3. FAITH REQUIRES TRUSTING EVEN WHEN YOU DO NOT KNOW WHEN



Genesis 21:1-5 ESV

*Abraham was **a hundred years old** when his son Isaac was born to him. And Sarah said, “God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh over me.” And she said, “Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.”*

Genesis 25:19-21 ESV

¹⁹ *These are the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son:
Abraham fathered Isaac, ²⁰ and **Isaac was forty years old
when he took Rebekah**, the daughter of Bethuel the
Aramean of Paddan-aram, the sister of Laban the
Aramean, to be his wife. ²¹ And Isaac prayed to the Lord
for his wife, because she was barren. And the Lord
granted his prayer, and **Rebekah his wife conceived.***

Genesis 25:24-26 ESV

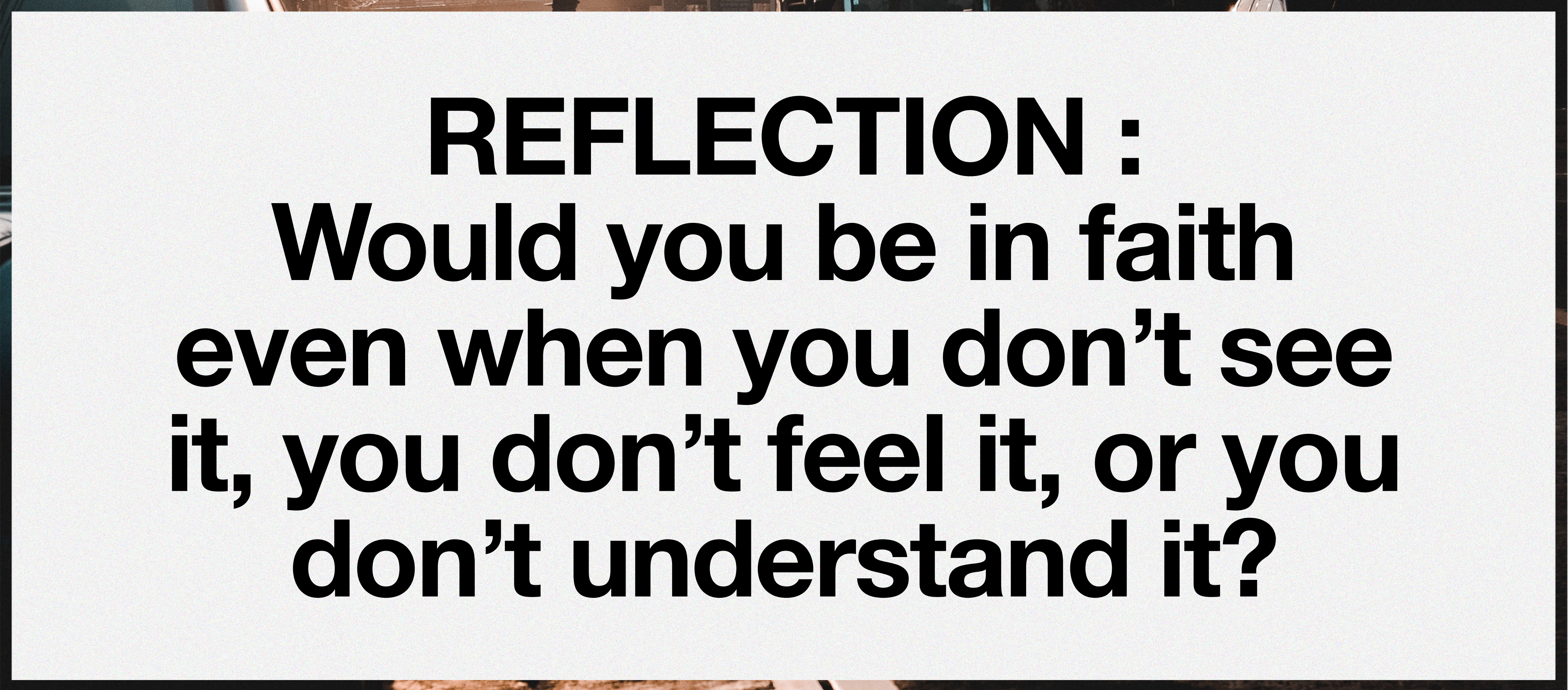
²⁴ *When her days to give birth were completed, behold, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵ The first came out red, all his body like a hairy cloak, so they called his name Esau. ²⁶ Afterward his brother came out with his hand holding Esau's heel, so his name was called Jacob. **Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.***



**WHEN GOD PROMISES, HE WILL
ALWAYS DELIVER ON TIME.**

Genesis 21:1-5 ESV

*The Lord visited Sarah as he had said, and **the Lord did to Sarah as he had promised.** And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son **in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him.***



REFLECTION :
**Would you be in faith
even when you don't see
it, you don't feel it, or you
don't understand it?**



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