

Turning Famine into Favor

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic

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Famine is any form of shortage or insufficiency. Even the great women and men in the bible have experienced unexpected famine. It is inevitable in the cycle of life because it happens to everyone, including us Christians. We may be experiencing famine now, but surely, God's favor will sustain us.

Reading: Genesis 26:1-12

5 Ways to Turn Famine into our Favor

To change our famine into favor, we should;

1. **Know the nature of famine** (Gen 26:1).

All forms of famine are painful experiences.

1.1. Famine has a purpose.

- And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose (Rom. 8:28).
- Consider it all joy, my brothers, when you encounter various trials (Jas 1:2-4).
- There is an appointed time for everything (Ecc 3:1).
- God has made everything beautiful in its time (Ecc 3:1-11).

1.2. Famine is temporary.

- For our present troubles are small and won't last very long (2 Cor. 4:17).

2. **Stand fast.**

2.1 Amidst the famine in our life, we should:

- Stand fast during famine in our life.
- Refuse to change /abandon our belief.
- Stay in the land (Canaan) (Ge. 26:2-3).
- Face our famine head on.
- My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness (2 Cor.12:9).

2.2 Places that have great effect in our lives:

1. Egypt – a place of refuge and bondage
2. Canaan – a place of favor and increase

3. **Obey.** (Gen. 26:4-6)

- Isaac stayed in Gerar even if it did not make sense. Obedience sometimes does not make sense. To God, obedience is more important than a miracle.
- The power, miracle, and favor are in obedience.
- Little steps of obedience are the stepping stones to life's greatest miracles and favors.

4. **Stay faithful**

- Then Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold and the Lord blessed him (Gen 26:12).
- He sowed during drought and kept planting.
- Keep sowing the seeds of the Word of God in our life, even in famine.
- If we stay faithful, we will find out that in the famine God's favor is there.
- "Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up" (Gal 6:9)

5. **Have faith.** (Gen 26:12)

- Isaac sowed radical seeds of faith and reaped a radical harvest
- Keep sowing the seed of faith even in famine.
- In God's economy, it doesn't matter when we're planting it. He will make it happen because he is the Lord of harvest and abundance!

CONCLUSION

- God still gives us a favor-filled life even if we are in famine.
- God promises us on Psalm 37:19 that "...in the day of famine, they have abundance..."
- Declare this: I have the favor of God in the famine. Now is my season of God's favor!

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