



Title: Remember When...

Date: 5.30.10

Series: Forefathers

Text: Gen 26

Synopsis: Sometimes life get complicated right? There can be division in families between sibling, between parents and children, and even between spouses. The longer those divisions last, the more complicated life gets. Every family has these types of issues.

For those of us who have been around for a while, it can make us nostalgic for a simpler time. Sometimes we look back and we ask, "Remember when we were first dating?" or "Remember the summer right after high school?" Those times look pretty good from a distance.

We get the same kind of story in Genesis 26 about Isaac and Rebekah. It's an odd little romantic flashback of a young couple facing a hard land and hostile people, yet together, building a life. The story is wedged between Esau's ill-conceived sale of his birthright to his wily twin brother Jacob, and Rebekah and Jacob's tricking an elderly Isaac into blessing Jacob, finalizing the birthright transaction.

The story reminds us that in any family, including a patriarchal family, there is dysfunction. Rebekah and Isaac's family account contains chicanery and division that can rival any Hollywood soap opera. Yet God's patience and provision permeates even the most human situations and when our lives and relationship grow increasingly complex, it makes us long for simpler times. Do you remember those times? Have you every experienced those times? Do you remember when...? Happy Memorial Day.