



Well Diggers

# Introduction:

In Isaac's time, the prevailing lifestyle was that of a nomad who constantly went where the grass was greener and who didn't build permanent communities or dwellings.

**Text: Genesis 26:12-25**

**Isaac planted crops in that land and the same year reaped a hundredfold, because the LORD blessed him.**

**The man became rich, and his wealth continued to grow until he became very wealthy. He had so many flocks and herds and servants that the Philistines envied him.**

**So all the wells that his father's  
servants had dug in the time of his  
father Abraham, the Philistines  
stopped up, filling them with earth.**

**Then Abimelech said to Isaac, "Move  
away from us; you have become too  
powerful for us."**

**So Isaac moved away from there and encamped in the Valley of Gerar and settled there. 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 herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac's herdsmen 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.”**

**From there he went up to Beersheba.**

**That night the LORD appeared to him  
and said, “I am the God of your father  
Abraham.**

**Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bless you and will increase the number of your descendants for the sake of my servant Abraham.”**

**Isaac built an altar there and called on the name of the LORD. There he pitched his tent, and there his servants dug a well.**   Genesis 26:12-25

In Isaac's time, digging a well was:

**HARD, LONG, and  
UNCERTAIN** work.

A costly **INVESTMENT** in the future  
and those who would follow in your footsteps.

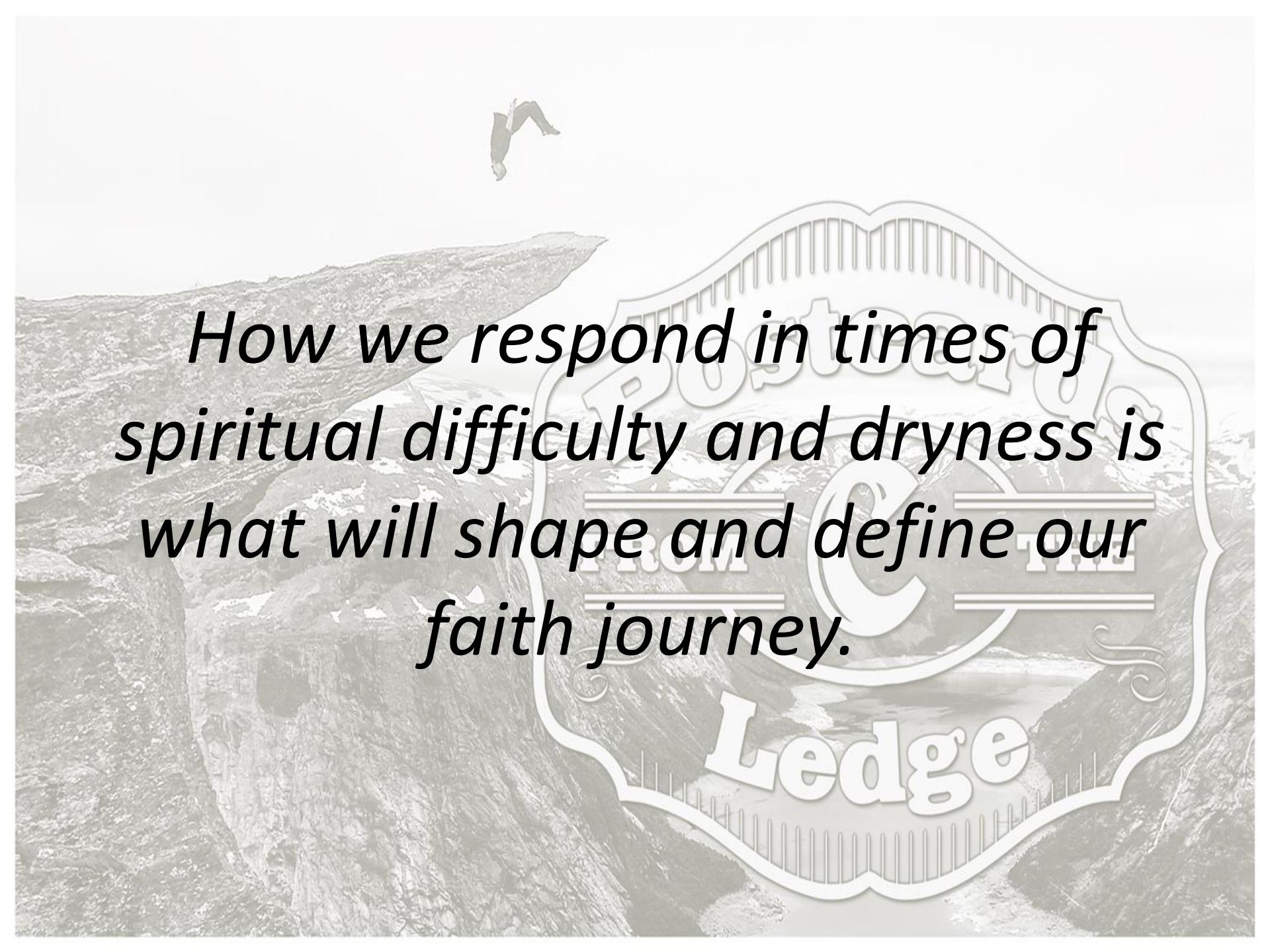
A statement of **FAITH** that you would  
**PERMANENTLY** possess that land.

Spiritually, we Christians sometimes pass through times of **TRIAL** and **DIFFICULTY** that are so intense that we are tempted to believe that we have been **FORSAKEN** by God and others.

FROM

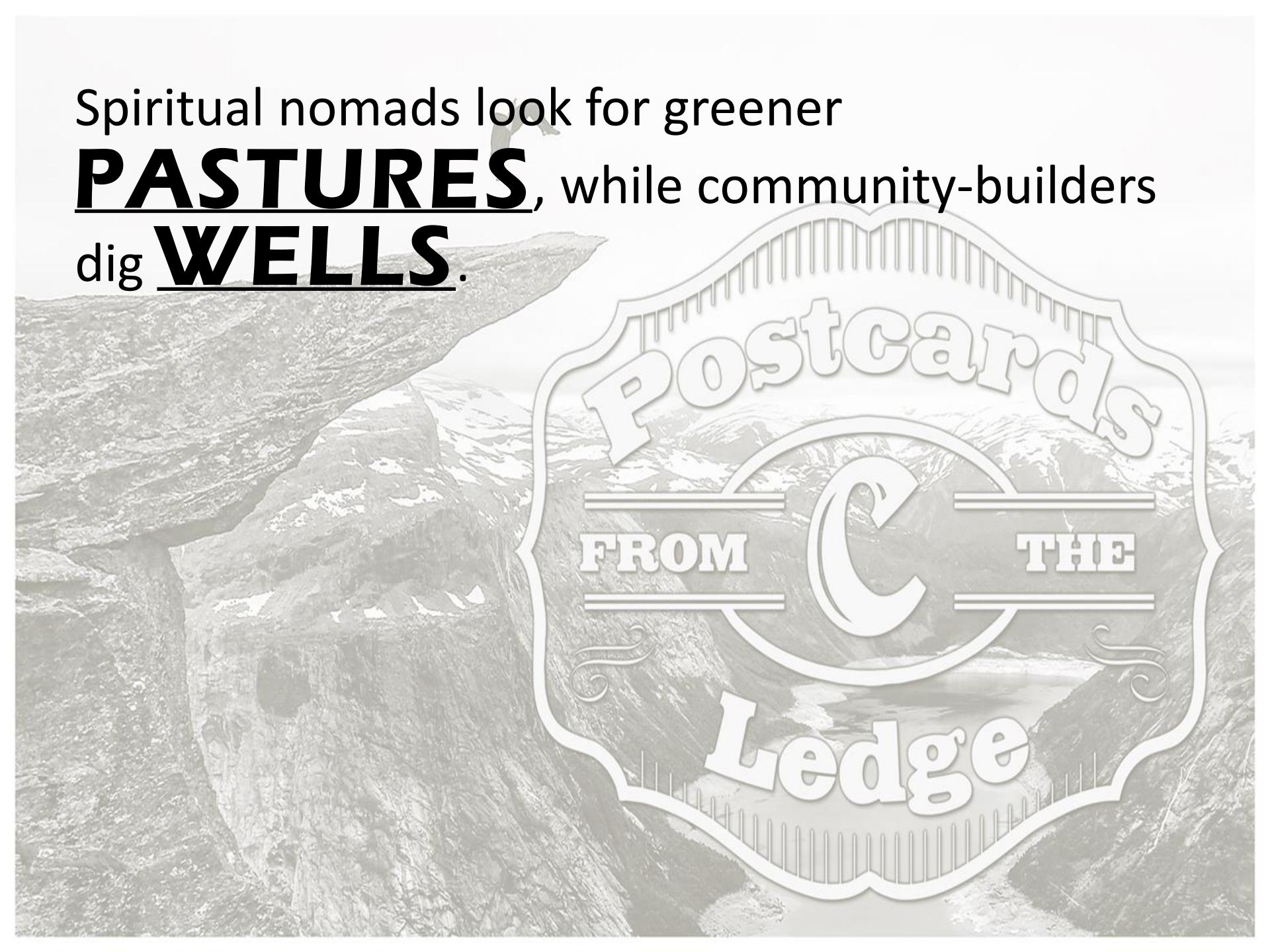
THE

Ledge



*How we respond in times of  
spiritual difficulty and dryness is  
what will shape and define our  
faith journey.*

Spiritual nomads look for greener  
**PASTURES**, while community-builders  
dig **WELLS**.



Postcards  
FROM C THE  
Ledge



*The nomad's life is simple, solitary,  
and transient; he leaves no  
footsteps in the sands of time.  
Significance has a price!*

To build a spiritual well:

1. Commit yourself to both **STARTING** and **FINISHING**. You aren't finished until your thirst is quenched!
2. Practice **PRAYING** without **CEASING**.
3. **DIG** into the **BIBLE**. The Holy Spirit usually speaks through the **WORD**!

To build a spiritual well:

4. Cultivate **SPIRITUAL** relationships.

You should have a variety of friends to  
**CHALLENGE** your thinking,  
**ENCOURAGE** you, give sound  
**COUNSEL**, and to have good clean  
**FUN** with. God can use people as a well in  
your life!



*The most common thing Christians  
fail to do in digging a spiritual well  
is to build spiritual friendships!*

# Conclusion:

Isaac dug wells wherever  
he went. Will we?



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