Hall of Faith Inductees #6 Rev. Nick Doyle

 August 10, 2025

**– By Faith Isaac –**

**Faith for the Next Generation**

Hebrews 11:20; Genesis 27:1-28:5

*Main Idea: Faith accepts and affirms God’s purposes, even when they unfold in ways we did not expect.*

***Point 1: Faith Submits to God’s Sovereignty – Even When Our Plans are Disrupted***

* **Isaac’s plan**: Bless Esau, the firstborn.
* **God’s plan**: “The older will serve the younger” (Genesis 25:23) — and He used surprising means to make it happen.

Sometimes God disrupts our plans and we have two choices: will we fight Him—or submit? Faith isn't just about having a plan; it's about **trusting God when the plan changes**.

Faith doesn’t always look like bold steps forward. Sometimes faith looks like **letting go of the script** you wrote for your life, your family, your ministry—and trusting the One who sees the whole picture.

***Point 2: Faith Looks Beyond the Present – Trusting God's Promises for the Future***

*“By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau.”* Hebrews 11:20 (ESV)

The writer of Hebrews tells us that **Isaac’s blessing was an act of faith**.

***Isaac wasn’t focused on the mess around him—he was focused on the covenant ahead of him.***

* Isaac, like his father Abraham, believed that God’s covenant would endure. He also recognized—whether he wanted it or not—that ***Jacob*** was now the one through whom God would carry that promise forward.

**The Power of This Faith Moment:**

* **Isaac looked beyond the family conflict-** and saw God's covenant continuing.
* **He looked beyond his emotions** (disappointment for Esau, the sting of deception).
* **He looked beyond his own lifespan**, trusting that God's plan would unfold long after he was gone.

***Point 3: Faith Leads to Action – Guiding the Next Generation to Walk in God's Way***

“Then Isaac trembled very violently and said, ‘Who was it then that hunted game and brought it to me, and I ate it all before you came, and I have blessed him? Yes, and he shall be blessed.’” Genesis 27:33

Isaac’s faith shines most clearly **not in what he planned**, but in **what he submitted to**.

* He had his preferences: *Esau was his favourite.*
* He had his plan: *Bless Esau before he died.*
* But God’s plan prevailed. When Isaac realized it, he **trembled**—because he had just come face-to-face with God's sovereignty.

Instead of resisting or trying to undo what happened, Isaac **yielded**.

**Encouragement for the Weary:**

Isaac’s story reminds us that even reluctant, broken, hesitant faith is still faith—when it yields to God.

* God doesn’t require you to understand everything, or even feel good about it at first.
He calls you to trust Him enough to say “yes”.
* *“Yes… and he shall be blessed.”* Genesis 27:33

You don’t need perfect circumstances. You don’t need perfect performance. However, you do need a **faith that believes God is in control and worthy of trust.**