

Isaac and Rebekah

Genesis 24:1-20, 34-40, 50-53, 61-67

Teacher Preparation

Read background materials from the Dole *Bible Study Notes*: <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/file/dbsn-1-19-isaac-and-rebekah.pdf>

Introduction

Welcome the kids and ask them how they're doing.

Read

Read Genesis 24 (It's pretty long, but it's a good story. Stop along the way to ask the discussion questions.)

Or, break it down like this:

- a. Read Gen. 24:1-20 (Summarize Gen. 24:21-33)
- b. Read Gen. 24:34-40 (Summarize Gen. 24:41-49)
- c. Read Gen. 24:50-53 (Skip verses 54-60)
- d. Read Gen. 24:61-67

Discuss

1. Who did Abraham send to find a wife for his son Isaac? (His oldest servant) What did he make the servant promise? (That he wouldn't take a wife from among the Canaanites, but would go to the country Abraham came from to find her.)
2. When Abraham's servant got to the city of Nahor he prayed to the Lord and asked for a sign so he would know he had found the right woman for Isaac. What sign did he ask for? (He would say, "Please let down your pitcher that I may drink," and she would do it. Also, she would offer to give his camels a drink.)
3. Who did the Lord show him that was to be Isaac's wife? (Rebekah)
4. Did Rebekah's family treat Abraham's servant well? (Yes)
5. After the servant explained the reason for his journey, were Rebekah's mother and brother willing to let her go with him? (Yes) Why? (They believed this was what the Lord wanted)
6. When they asked Rebekah, "Will you go with this man?" what did she say? ("I will go.")
7. Where was Isaac when he first saw Rebekah? (In a field)
8. What was he doing? (Meditating, or thinking)
9. Was Isaac satisfied with the wife the servant had brought him? (Yes; he loved her.)

Further Ideas: A Wife of the Same Religion

1. Most people in the land of Canaan were Canaanites who worshiped idols. Do you know what idols are? They are pictures or statues that people worship as though they are God.
2. Abraham worshiped the Lord and wanted his son to have a wife who worshiped the Lord too because he knew that religion is the most important thing in a person's life. He also knew that if Isaac married a woman of a different religion, it would probably lead to unhappiness between Isaac and his wife. And it might cause Isaac to forget about following the Lord.
3. More than anything, Abraham believed that following the Lord was important. So he sent his oldest servant back to his relatives who worshipped the Lord, to find his son a wife who would worship the Lord as Isaac did.
4. How does this relevant nowadays? Are we supposed to let parents or servants pick choose who will marry when we get older? No, of course not! But there are some good lessons we can learn from this story. Abraham and Isaac knew that the Lord will lead each person to the best marriage partner for them—if they let Him. They also knew that it is important that a husband and wife think about the Lord in similar ways. They don't necessarily have to have grown up going to the same church, but they do need to look towards the Lord together. The servant asked the Lord to show him the right woman for Isaac, and He did. You may think you are too young to think about getting married (and you are!), but the Lord tells us in the book Conjugal Love (which is all about true marriage love) that even from an early age, young people should pray to the Lord to ask Him to send them their conjugal partner. As you get older, and become a teenager and start dating, it's very important that choosing a boyfriend or girlfriend and then falling in love isn't just about how funny, or good-looking (or rich!) someone is, but their important, hidden qualities. Are they kind? Do they do nice things for people? Do they try to do what the Lord asks them to do? And always remember to look to the Lord yourself, and He will show you the path to take.

Project

- Colour the picture of Rebekah at the well, with the quote underneath (p. 3). Stress how each child should pray to the Lord every day and ask, among other things, for Him to show them their marriage partner at the right time.

Supplies

- Copy of the Word
- Print out (or be able to show the pictures on a device) a selection of pictures illustrating the story:
<https://somuchbible.com/word-studies/annotated-scripture/genesis-2434-38-42-49-58-67/>
<https://latterdaysaintmag.com/genesis-24-eight-guiding-principles-for-finding-a-spouse/>
<https://www.gospelimages.com/paintings/17/eliezer-and-rebecca>
- Picture to colour –1 for each student
- Pencils and coloured markers and/or crayons



Happy marriages can be provided on earth for the people who have wanted and prayed to the Lord, ever since they were young, for a lovely marriage relationship (see *Conjugal Love* 49).