Isaac Marries Rebekah

Genesis 24:1-67

Bible Memory Verse

Genesis 2:24 NIV

For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

Bible Story

Abraham was getting very old and his son Isaac did not have a wife. So, Abraham sent a servant on a mission to find Isaac a mate. Abraham was very specific:

> *"I want you to swear by the Lord, the God of heaven and the God of earth, that you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I am living, but will go to my country and my own relatives and get a wife for my son Isaac" (Genesis 24:3-4).*

The servant then took off for northwest Mesopotamia near where Abraham's father took the family—Haran.

When the servant got near the town of Nahor, "he had the camels kneel down near the well outside the town; it was toward evening, the time the women go out to draw water" (Genesis 24:11). The servant then prayed this prayer:

> *"O Lord, God of my master Abraham, give me success today, and show kindness to my master Abraham. See, I am standing beside this spring, and the daughters of the townspeople are coming out to draw water. May it be that when I say to a girl, 'Please let down your jar that I may have a drink,' and she says, 'Drink, and I'll water your camels too'—let her be the one you have chosen for your servant Isaac. By this I will know that you have shown kindness to my master" (Genesis 24:12-14).*

No sooner had the servant finished praying that a young girl came out with a jar on her shoulder. “The girl was very beautiful, a virgin; no man had ever lain with her” (Genesis 24:16). Her name was Rebekah.

The servant asked her: “please give me a little water from your jar” (Genesis 24:17). Rebekah graciously gave the servant of Abraham some water. Then she said: “I’ll draw water for your camels too, until they have finished drinking” (Genesis 24:19). The servant watched her closely to see if his prayer had been answered.

When the camels had finished drinking, the servant took out a gold nose ring and two gold bracelets and asked her about her family. “I am the daughter of Bethuel, the son that Milcah bore to Nahor,” Rebekah said (Genesis 24:24). Rebekah was a relative of Abraham! Amazing, thought the servant!

Rebekah brought Abraham’s servant to her house where the servant relayed all that had happened that day. Her father, Bethuel, and her brother, Laban, said: “This is from the Lord; we can say nothing to you one way or the other. Here is Rebekah; take her and go, and let her become the wife of your master’s son, as the Lord has directed” (Genesis 24:50-51).

One evening, Isaac was out in a field meditating. He looked up and saw camels approaching. “Rebekah also looked up and saw Isaac. Then the servant told Isaac all he had done. Isaac brought her into the tent of his mother Sarah, and he married Rebekah. So she became his wife, and he loved her…” (Genesis 24:64, 66-67).

Life Application

God goes before us and does some amazing things on our behalf. For Abraham's servant, he got to see firsthand how God answers prayer right away. The Lord God had gone ahead of the servant and prepared Rebekah for this divine encounter.

God does the same for us as well. God is always on the move, going before and behind us to work in our lives. It is like Aslan in the stories of Narnia. You knew strange and wonderful things were about to happen when you heard that Aslan was spotted or Aslan was on the move. Aslan is a metaphor for God.

Pray. Ask. Interact. Trust. Talk. Listen. Believe. God is on the move in your life.

Review Questions

1. What was Abraham worried about with young adult Isaac? He did not have a wife.
2. Who did Abraham send to find a wife for his son? A servant.
3. Who did Abraham's servant meet? Rebekah.
4. Where did Abraham's servant find Rebekah? At a well.
5. What was special about Rebekah? She was related to Abraham (back then, that was a good thing!).

Coloring Sheet

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