

MEN'S LIFE BLOOMINGTON & GOD @ WORK

Tuesday, November 24, 2015 – Theme: Family

Rebecca – A Wife for Isaac

Genesis 24: 1-67

Segment:

- Abraham gives orders to his servant to find a wife for Isaac
- The servant, with God's help, finds Rebecca
- Rebecca leaves her family and marries Isaac

Segment Questions:

- Why does Abraham not want Isaac to marry a Canaanite woman? Why does it have to be from his family?
- Is the servant "putting the Lord to the test" with his request of God? Or is it in the same vein as Gideon's test with the dew and the fleece? What does this "test" add to the story?
- What actions of faith of the servant do you notice? What is his attitude towards this assignment?
- Why does the story repeat the servant's interaction with God and Rebecca's passing of the "test" so many times? What can this repetition mean?
- Rebecca's brother, Laban, blesses her that she may become "thousands of ten thousands." Of what does this remind you? What does this reveal about God?
- What does it say about Isaac that he was meditating in the field? What does it say about him that he immediately went to greet Rebecca?
- Contrast Isaac at this moment (his love for Rebecca was great) with the marriages of Abram, his dad, and Jacob, his son. What about the fact that Rebecca would one day deceive him for Jacob's gain?

Action Questions:

- The Lord has blessed Abraham in everything. Abraham is among the Honor Roll of the faithful in Hebrews 11. Of course, his servant and his son walk in faith. What can we as husbands, fathers, and leaders do to ensure that those around us also walk in faith? What are possible roadblocks or pitfalls to this mission and how can we avoid them?
- Isaac left the field to go to his future wife and loved her "greatly." What do you need to "leave" in pursuit of your wife? Loving your wife greatly takes time and forethought in an incredibly busy world, what are some active ways you can pursue your wife?

Genesis 24: 1-67

From: www.btstories.com

When Sarah died, Abraham realized he needed to find a wife for his son Isaac. He said to his servant, "I'm sending you back to my homeland so you can find a wife for my son. Don't choose a woman from the people around here. Make sure she's from among my relatives. You're not to take Isaac back to that country! Listen, the Lord will send his angel before you. He'll prepare the way... but if the woman isn't willing to come back with you, then you're released from this assignment." After a long journey, the servant reached the town where Abraham's relatives lived. He stopped at a well on the outskirts of town. He prayed, "Oh God, help me find the right woman for Isaac."

Suddenly he had an idea. "Lord, I'll ask a woman for a drink of water. I'll know she's the one You've chosen if she gives me a drink, and then offers to draw water for all ten of these camels!" Soon a young woman named Rebekah came to the well. She was beautiful ... and virtuous ... and ... she wasn't married.

She filled her jar, and started to walk away. The servant stepped forward and asked for a drink of water. She gave him one, and then offered to draw water for all his camels. While she was doing this, the servant asked God to help him know for sure that this was the one for Isaac.

After Rebekah was done, the servant gave her several pieces of jewelry and asked, "Who's your family, and is there room at your father's house for my men and me to spend the night?" She told the servant the names of her father and grandfather, and the servant knew they were Abraham's relatives. Rebekah said that there was plenty of room for them to spend the night.

She then left the servant and ran home to tell her family about this conversation. When her brother saw the valuable jewelry, he hurried to the well to see who had given her these things. He asked the servant, "Come, we've prepared a place for you and your servants, as well as your camels!" The servant bowed and worshiped the Lord.

Once they got to the house, the servant was invited to sit down and eat a meal with them. But he said, "Before we eat this meal, I must tell you my story." He told them about the assignment from Abraham and how Rebecca completed the sign as discussed with God. "I believe she's the woman God has chosen to be Isaac's wife."

The two men were amazed when they heard this story, and agreed with him. They immediately gave their blessing. The next morning they asked Rebekah if she was willing to go with Abraham's servant and marry Isaac. She said she was willing to go. So, they blessed Rebekah that she may become "thousands of ten thousands", and sent her with servant.

When they were back in Canaan, Isaac was in a field meditating when he saw the caravan of camels approaching, so he started walking toward them. Rebekah saw him coming their way. She asked the servant, "Who is that man?" "That is my master, Isaac." So Rebekah covered herself with a veil.

The servant told Isaac all about his trip, and how God led him to just the right woman. So Isaac took Rebekah to be his wife, and he was comforted after the death of his mother. The love between Isaac and Rebekah was great.