

“Abraham and Isaac – Looking for A Bride” *Genesis 24*

Open: Story

- Characters in the story
 - Abraham – The faithful
 - The Servant – The oldest servant of Abraham
 - Isaac – The promised son
 - Rebekah – The future bride of Isaac.
- Events of the Story
 - Abraham did not want his son, Isaac, to marry one of the Canaanites. **vs. 1-3**
 - Separations is not a secondary issue; it is a prerequisite for being blessed by God.
 - Abraham sends his servant back to the home country to find a bride for Isaac. **vs. 4-9**
 - The blessings of God should not be sought for out side the place of God.
 - The servant was not seeking to distribute the wealth of the master he was seeking to find a bride for the masters son.
 - Abraham servant sets off, with much wealth, to the home country to find a bride for Isaac. **vs. 10-11**
 - There’s many blessings not only available for those obeying God; but also for those who’ll come.
 - Abraham’s servant prays to God and God answers that prayer. **vs. 12-28**
 - The purpose of the mission is only superseded by the power of prayer.
 - Abraham’s servant meets Laban, and Laban perceives something is different about this event. **vs. 29-48**
 - When we obey the master the world will see that what the master has available is better than anything that is available in the far country.
 - Abraham’s servant is given permission to take Rebekah back with him. **vs. 49-53**
 - No one is forced to be a bride; but if the servant is performing his duty as he should then there will a great compelling to become the bride.
 - Abraham’s servant does not delay his departure towards home. **vs. 54-56**
 - The only thing that prevents the blessings of God in the life of an individual is that individuals delay of obedience.
 - Rebekah submits her will to the will of the servant. **vs. 57-61**
 - Once Rebekah submitted she not only submitted her future to God; be she found that her every need was meet.
 - Rebekah did not say yes to being the bride to receive the riches of the master, she received the riches of masters because she said yes.
 - If more people would spend more time acting like the bride of Christ, than being a friend with the world, then more people would enjoy of the gifts that are for the bride.
 - The happy meeting of Isaac and Rebekah. **vs. 62-66**
 - There is no joy greater in life when the bride is united with blessings of being the bride. Rebekah didn’t allow the material blessings to distract her from the purpose of the blessings.

App:

- Abraham pictures God the Father who sends forth the servant to find a bride for the Son. **Lk. 14:23** *“And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.”*
- Isaac pictures Jesus Christ the Son who is anxiously awaiting the arrival of the bride. **Ps. 19:5** *“Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.”*
- **The Servant pictures the Holy Spirit filled Christian whose job it is to help find a bride for Jesus** (to be a witness to others). To tell others that the Father is looking for a bride for the Son. **Rev. 21:9** *“And there came unto me one of the seven angels ...and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb’s wife.”*

Tran:

- The servant does not worry about his name being mentioned, he is focused on completing the duties of a servant.
- The servant’s conversation is not about his position or importance to the process of choosing a wife for his masters son, it’s all about the master and his mission.
- The servant does not become proud in his accomplishments or responsibility, he remains humble and keeps his focus, and all those he comes in contact with, on the mission.

I. Recognize it is not your name that matters, but what you do that makes a difference.

- Remember the servant’s name is never given, nor does he ever tell others what his name is; his conversation is centered on his master (**Gen. 24:2, 27, 35,52**). We are not to be so concerned with who knows our name, but how many people know HIS name. **Ps. 83:18** *“That men may know that thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH, art the most high over all the earth.”*
- A. It is not who we are that matters; but who we have been sent by that makes a difference. **Jn. 5:30** *“I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.”*
- B. People will not be drawn to the master if we are lifting up ourselves. We need to lift him up and his Word. **Jn. 12:32** *“And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.”*
- C. Realize it is not our position that is important, but the mission we have been given. **Mk. 16:15** *“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”*

II. Recognize it is not your opinion that matters, but the fulfilling of your purpose that makes a difference.

- Remember the servant never questioned his role or the request of the master; he simply set off to do exactly what was required of him. (**Gen. 24:9,12,37-38**) We are not to spend our time questioning the Master's command or trying to figure out His reasoning; we are to simply obey. **Is. 55: 8-9** *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. [9] For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."*
- A. I am not to figure out if what the Master has said makes sense; I am to just fulfill my purpose as a servant, spreading the message that the Father is looking for a bride for the Son.
- I must trust that what the Master has commanded will come to pass if I obey. **Is. 55:11** *"So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."*
 - **Gen. 24:39-40** *"And I said unto my master, Peradventure the woman will not follow me. [40] And he said unto me, The LORD, before whom I walk, will send his angel with thee, and prosper thy way; and thou shalt take a wife for my son of my kindred, and of my father's house:"*
- B. I am not to cast doubt, in the minds of others, about the mission or the Master's ability; I am to just obey.
- i. **II Cor. 1:17-24**
 - ii. **Gal. 3:22** *"But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe."*
 - iii. **Heb. 10:23-25** *"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)" [24] And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: [25] Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."*
- C. I am not to present what I think should be done to those I come in contact with, I am simply to deliver the goods the Master has given me to deliver. **I Thess. 2:3-5** *"For our exhortation was not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile: [4] But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts. [5] For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloke of covetousness; God is witness:"*

III. Recognize it is not your accomplishments that matter, but that you finish the mission.

- Remember, the servant had many gifts in his possession to bestow upon the bride (Gen. 24:10,22, 53); We have been given many wonderful gifts to give to those who will be willing to be called the bride (Mystery of the gospel and the mysteries of God's Word).
- A. I am not to discuss with others all the work I have done, or am doing, while in the process of accomplishing the mission. I am to remain faithful and let God take care of the results. I Cor. 15:58
"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."
- B. I am not to use my tenor as a badge to impress those I come in contact with, I am to simply remain humble and complete the mission.
- In Gen. 24:2, we discover that Abraham's servant does not brag about who he is; he simply remains focused on his task.
- C. I am not to seek self-pity because of the difficulty or the length of the journey, I am to simply finish the mission.
- ILL: The Apostle Paul never uses his difficulties as an excuse or opportunity to receive pity, he uses those times of difficulties to encourage and strengthen the church (II Cor. 11:24-30).*

Close:

- Don't worry about your name being mentioned, focus on completing the duties of a servant.
- Don't spend your time talking about your position or importance to the process of choosing a wife for the master's son, lift up the master and complete his mission.
- Don't become proud in your accomplishments or responsibility, remain humble and keep your focus, and all those he comes in contact with, on the mission.

II Tim. 4:7

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:"

- The servant, who represents the Christian, had 1 job what was it? To find a bride for the master's son.
- We need to recognize that it is not our ?????? that matters it is what we ?????? that makes a difference. name, do.
- We need to recognize our opinion doesn't matter, but it's the fulfilling of our ??????? that makes the difference. Purpose.
- We need to recognize that its not our accomplishments that matter, all that matters is that we ???????. Finish.
- Understand that faith in God is not good intention; it is correct ??????? Actions.