

The First Family

Date: 03.22.2026 | Isaac & Rebekah
Scripture: Genesis 24

CENTRAL TRUTHS



PRESCHOOL:

God takes care of His people and keeps His promises.

YOUNGER KIDS (K5-2ND GRADE):

God helped Isaac find a wife and showed that He is always fulfilling His promises.

OLDER KIDS (3RD-5TH GRADE):

God faithfully guided Abraham's servant to Rebekah, showing that He is in control and keeps His promises by caring for His people.

STUDENTS:

God sovereignly worked through prayer, obedience, and faith to provide Rebekah as Isaac's wife, showing that He faithfully keeps His covenant promises and directs events according to His purposes.

ADULTS:

In providing Rebekah as Isaac's wife, God demonstrated His sovereign faithfulness to His covenant promises. Through prayerful dependence, obedient service, and willing faith, God orchestrated ordinary actions and extraordinary circumstances to accomplish His redemptive purposes—reminding us that He is always at work, guiding His people according to His perfect will.

MEMORY VERSE

And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you, I will curse and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.
Genesis 12:2-3



DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

What is our only hope in life and death? That we are not our own but belong, body and soul, both in life and death, to God and to our Savior Jesus Christ. New City Catechism Question 1



BACKGROUND INFO FOR LEADERS

Throughout Abraham's life, Scripture repeatedly shows God acting faithfully in accordance with the promises He made. **Genesis 24**, one of the longest chapters in Genesis, records in remarkable detail how God providentially provides a wife for Isaac. This account is not merely about marriage; it is about God preserving the covenant family through whom blessing would come to the world.

As Abraham grew old, he began to plan carefully for Isaac's future. Isaac was now about forty years old, and Abraham was deeply concerned that his son should not marry a Canaanite woman. From **Genesis 9** onward, the Canaanites are frequently portrayed as morally corrupt and opposed to the worship of the Lord (**Genesis 9:24–27; 10:6–20; 13:11–13**). Abraham feared that such a marriage would draw Isaac away from faithfulness to God.

Abraham summoned his most trusted servant—likely Eliezer, his household manager and former heir—and entrusted him with the most important task of his life: to find a wife for Isaac (**Genesis 24:2–4**). Although Abraham had left Mesopotamia nearly one hundred years earlier, he hoped that a wife for Isaac could be found among his own relatives there. At the same time, Abraham firmly refused to allow Isaac to leave the land of Canaan. God had promised this land to Abraham's descendants, and Abraham trusted that promise completely (**Genesis 24:6–7**).

The servant bound himself solemnly to Abraham's instructions, gathered camels and generous gifts, and set out on the long journey to Mesopotamia. The distance from Canaan to Nahor in Haran was roughly 520 miles, a journey that would have taken about three weeks on foot. Like Abraham, the servant demonstrated deep faith in the Lord. Upon arriving near the city, he prayed specifically for God's guidance (**Genesis 24:12–14**). His prayer revealed not only trust in God's sovereignty but also a selfless desire to faithfully carry out Abraham's wishes.

The servant's faith is evident throughout the narrative. He waited patiently after praying (*Genesis 24:21*), worshiped immediately when his prayer was answered (*Genesis 24:26*), and openly acknowledged that the Lord had guided him step by step (*Genesis 24:27*). God answered swiftly and clearly. Rebekah appeared, and her actions matched the servant's prayer exactly. While hospitality required offering water to a stranger, Rebekah went far beyond what was expected by offering water to all the camels as well—an act of extraordinary kindness and service (*Genesis 24:18–20*). Scripture highlights Rebekah's character—her beauty, her purity, and her generous heart (*Genesis 24:16*). The servant immediately recognized God's hand at work and responded with worship. When he explained the purpose of his journey to Rebekah's family, they acknowledged that the matter "comes from the Lord" (*Genesis 24:50*). All parties involved clearly attributed this union to God's direction.

Like Abraham before her, Rebekah was called to leave her family, her home, and her country in an act of faith. She agreed to depart immediately and journey to Canaan to marry a man she had never met (*Genesis 24:58*). Her response demonstrated confident trust in what God was doing in her life.

When Rebekah arrived in Canaan, Isaac welcomed her, and she became his wife. Scripture tells us that Isaac loved Rebekah and that she brought him comfort after the death of his mother, Sarah (*Genesis 24:67*). Through this marriage, God faithfully preserved the covenant family and continued His redemptive plan.

Genesis' original audience would have marveled at how God orchestrated the servant's faithfulness, Rebekah's willing obedience, and a series of unlikely events to bring about this marriage. They would have recognized that their very existence depended on God's guiding hand. This story reminds us that our all-knowing, all-powerful God is continually at work—hearing prayers, directing steps, and accomplishing His purposes through faithful obedience.

Ultimately, this account points forward to the gospel. The same God who carefully guided this marriage is the God who faithfully keeps every promise He makes. Through Isaac's family line, God would one day bring forth Jesus Christ—the promised Savior—through whom blessing would come to all nations. God's purposes cannot be stopped, and His promises will always be fulfilled.

TELL THE STORY

Genesis 24



Read directly from scripture, use the simple summary below, The Jesus Storybook Bible, or The Biggest Story Bible.

- Jesus Story Book Bible - The Girl No One Wanted (Genesis 29-30)

Abraham lived many years. Before he died, he wanted to find a wife for his son Isaac. He asked his best servant to find Isaac a wife- not from the Canaanites who lived near them, but from his own people. This was a hard job because the woman would need to agree to leave her family and come to the land God had promised to Abraham. Abraham said, "The Lord will send an angel before you." God would help the servant with this task.

The servant took 10 camels with him on the journey to Abraham's homeland. When the servant arrived, he stopped with the camels at a well outside the town. In the evenings, women would come and draw water from this well.

The servant prayed to God. He said, "When the young women come to draw water, I will say, 'May I have a drink, too?'" If one of the women says, "Drink, and I'll also draw water for your camels, let her be the woman you have chosen for Abraham's son, Isaac."

Before the servant had finished his prayer, Rebekah walked up to the well with a jug on her shoulder. She was unmarried and part of Abraham's people. The servant saw that she was very beautiful. She could be a perfect wife for Isaac!

The servant said, "Please let me have a little water from your jug." Rebekah replied, "Drink, and I'll also draw water for your camels." God had answered the servant's prayer; this was the woman God had chosen!

The servant gave gifts to Rebekah- a gold ring and two gold bracelets- and asked if he could stay in her father's house for the night. When she said yes, the servant knelt and worshipped God. God had shown His faithfulness and kindness to Abraham. They went to Rebekah's house, where the servant met her father, Bethuel, and her brother Laban.

The servant told Bethuel and Laban all that had happened. They agreed with Rebekah that she should be Isaac's wife. The servant gave the family many gifts, and then they returned to Canaan. Isaac loved Rebekah, and she became his wife.

God was faithful to provide a wife for Isaac. Abraham's servant brought back Rebekah so Isaac could know and love her. God sent His servant- Jesus- to seek and save people from sin and death. Jesus was faithful. He died and rose again so that people could know and love Him.

REBUILD THE STORY



1. Why was Abraham determined that Isaac not marry a Canaanite woman, and what concern guided this decision?
Genesis 24:2-4; Genesis 9:24-27; 13:11-13
2. How did Abraham's refusal to let Isaac leave Canaan demonstrate his trust in God's promises? *Genesis 24:6-7*
3. What does Abraham's choice of servant reveal about the importance of this mission? *Genesis 24:2*
4. How does the servant's prayer show both faith in God's sovereignty and thoughtful discernment? *Genesis 24:12-14*
5. Why is Rebekah's response at the well significant beyond basic hospitality? *Genesis 24:18-20*
6. How does the servant's reaction to answered prayer model a proper response to God's guidance? *Genesis 24:26-27*
7. What evidence in the narrative shows that Rebekah's family recognized God's hand in the situation? *Genesis 24:50-51*

8. How does Rebekah's willingness to leave her family parallel Abraham's earlier act of faith? *Genesis 24:58; Genesis 12:1-4*
9. What role does patient obedience play in the unfolding of God's plan in this chapter? *Genesis 24:21; 24:56*
10. How does Isaac and Rebekah's union serve God's larger covenant purposes? *Genesis 24:67; Genesis 12:2-3*
11. What does this chapter teach about seeking God's guidance in major life decisions? *Genesis 24:12-14; Proverbs 3:5-6*
12. How does faithful prayer prepare God's people to recognize His answers? *Genesis 24:21; Genesis 24:26-27*
13. What does Rebekah's obedience teach about trusting God with unknown futures? *Genesis 24:58; Hebrews 11:8*
14. How does God's sovereignty work through ordinary obedience and human responsibility? *Genesis 24:40; Genesis 24:52*
15. How does this story encourage confidence that God is faithfully advancing His redemptive plan? *Genesis 24:7; Galatians 3:16*

GOSPEL EMPHASIS

Part of God's promise to make Abraham a great nation meant that Isaac needed a wife, and long before Abraham's servant set out on his journey, God had already planned for Rebekah to become Isaac's wife. This story shows that God is always working behind the scenes to fulfill His promises, even when we cannot see how they will come together. In the same way, God has been faithfully carrying out His greatest promise—the plan to rescue sinners through Jesus. Just as God provided exactly what was needed for His covenant plan to continue through Isaac, He provided Jesus so that God's promise of blessing and salvation could reach the whole world.



WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TEACH US ABOUT GOD?

Use your Attributes of God poster as a guide.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Thank you, God, for Your sovereignty over all things. Thank You for protecting Your people through the marriage of Isaac and Rebekah. Please help us to seek Your guidance for our lives. Help us find joy in honoring You in all we do.



THIS WEEK'S BIBLE READING

Matthew 27; Mark 15; Luke 22:63-23:56; John 18:19-19:42