

WEEK 10: NEXT LEVEL ROMANCE

In Genesis 24, Abraham is described as very old. He now makes it his role to find a wife for his son Isaac. This is next level for calling for an old man, that even in his old age he still has a role to fulfill.

SCRIPTURE Genesis 23-24

OBSERVATION

- What does Abraham make his servant swear to? Why is Abraham so resolute in his desire for Isaac to remain in Canaan and not return to the land of his relatives?
- What modern implications might we place upon Abraham's insistence that Isaac not take a Canaanite wife?
- What does the servant's prayer say about his relationship with God? What does the servant ask God to do to show him he has found the right woman? Describe in your own words some of the character qualities the servant saw in Rebecca.
- Who were Abraham's relatives? (See Genesis 22:20-24; Genesis 24:47) What is your first impression of Rebecca's brother Laban? How does Rebecca's family react to the servant's story and request? How is Rebecca involved in the request of Abraham's servant? What is her decision?
- After the circumstances played out at the well and after Rebecca's family consents to the servant's request...what does the servant do? How does Isaac respond to the arrival of Rebecca? How does Rebecca respond to Isaac?
- What do we learn about Abraham's final years? How would you describe Abraham's journey of faith in one sentence.
- God responded to the servant's prayer through ordinary life situations and circumstances. When has God guided you in this way.

APPLICATION

- Compare and contrast the story of Isaac and Rebekah meeting with our contemporary culture's trends regarding dating and relationships.
- What are some of the risks of individualism when it comes to making big life decisions (who you will marry, what you will do with your life, etc.)? Why is it dangerous to make decisions like that in a vacuum, without seeking counsel from others?
- What should single Christian men look for in a wife? What should single Christian women look for in a husband? Why?
- Why is it important for Christians to marry within the same faith?
- How can single Christians (both men and women) be preparing in advance for marriage? What can they be doing in singleness to set themselves up for a marriage that is healthy and godly?
- How can married men grow their walk with God together?
- How does this chapter reflect the story of the gospel?
How do we see the ministry of:
 - The Father reflected in Abraham?
 - Jesus reflected in Isaac?
 - The Holy Spirit reflected in Abraham's servant?

PRAYER



GENESIS 24

1 Abraham was now very old, and the Lord had blessed him in every way. 2 He said to the senior servant in his household, the one in charge of all that he had, "Put your hand under my thigh. 3 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, 4 but will go to my country and my own relatives and get a wife for my son Isaac." 5 The servant asked him, "What if the woman is unwilling to come back with me to this land? Shall I then take your son back to the country you came from?" 6 "Make sure that you do not take my son back there," Abraham said. 7 "The Lord, the God of heaven, who brought me out of my father's household and my native land and who spoke to me and promised me on oath, saying, 'To your offspring[a] I will give this land'—he will send his angel before you so that you can get a wife for my son from there. 8 If the woman is unwilling to come back with you, then you will be released from this oath of mine. Only do not take my son back there." 9 So the servant put his hand under the thigh of his master Abraham and swore an oath to him concerning this matter. 10 Then the servant left, taking with him ten of his master's camels loaded with all kinds of good things from his master. He set out for Aram Naharaim and made his way to the town of Nahor. 11 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. 12 Then he prayed, "Lord, God of my master Abraham, make me successful today, and show kindness to my master Abraham. 13 See, I am standing beside this spring, and the daughters of the townspeople are coming out to draw water. 14 May it be that when I say to a young woman, '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."