



## Love a Good Love Story

### Genesis 24

Genesis 24:1-9 NIV

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 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.

Pass on a faith-filled, genuine, experienced testimony

-Are you passing on a vibrant faith to those you lead and have influence on?

Yahweh- God is personal, relational, promise keeping

God of heaven- there is no higher power nor greater place of appeal

-brought me out- personally brought me to Himself

-promised me- God’s perfect integrity to his own character

-will send his angel- provided for me with supernatural power

-who in your life needs to hear this?

Genesis 24:12-16 NIV

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.”

15 Before he had finished praying, Rebekah came out with her jar on her shoulder. She was the daughter of Bethuel son of Milkah, who was the wife of Abraham’s brother Nahor. 16 The woman was very beautiful, a virgin; no man had ever slept with her. She went down to the spring, filled her jar and came up again.

Genesis 24:26-27 NIV

26 Then the man bowed down and worshiped the Lord,

27 saying, “Praise be to the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who has not abandoned his kindness and faithfulness to my master. As for me, the Lord has led me on the journey to the house of my master’s relatives.”

Genesis 24:52 NIV

52 When Abraham's servant heard what they said, he bowed down to the ground before the Lord.

Make prayer and worship part of the regular rhythm of your life  
Look at the servant:

- approaches life with expectant prayer
- responsive to what the Lord has done & anticipating what the Lord will do
- rooted in Abraham's story and personal experience
- expressed privately and publicly
- does the next logical thing by faith (daily worship)

What was your interaction with the Lord like this week? How can that be adjusted?

The text does not say directly that God answered this prayer, but it's clearly inferred.

God has created a world where he's easily found, but distant enough you have to look for him.

As Isaac is seeking a believing wife, he's looking for how God is going to provide.

The two common ways to see reality (R.Butterfield)

- Mimesis- imitating something greater to find meaning
- Poiesis- attempting to find meaning by inventing yourself

Whatever you're seeking, put yourself in the way of God's provision and expect him to act on your behalf- answered prayer!

Not appropriate to try this trick to find a spouse today!

Be very careful with fleeces, interpreting circumstances the way you want to

live every moment as if

- God is in the details of your life
- God is responsive to prayer
- God is going to bring his best to you when you need it

How do I appropriately discern the will of God?

—Courageously live every day in the clearly revealed will of God

—your heart and thoughts get attuned to his will, mind and works

If you live in rebellion of God's revealed ways, how can you expect to discern what he wants in another situation?

James- "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask and it will be given freely"....and obey what is clear in Scripture!

This is all pointing us to the greatest love story

a series of stories in Scripture where man meets woman at well

—Isaac and Rebekah

—Jacob and Rachel

—Moses and Zipporah

John 4- Jesus and Samaritan woman

Jesus is the faithful & sacrificial groom, purchasing his Bride from slavery, saving her from sin, taking her to his better home forever

What do we learn from Rebekah?

not just as analogy, but as a real woman who is getting married

-a believer

-beautiful

-virgin

-servant's spirit

-modest and appropriate

-response with faith

Did you catch Rebekah's response to Isaac's offer? "I will go"

Choose the Lord and the Lord's ways today

Tomorrow is too late

Your need for the Lord and his love in your life is overwhelming-  
go to him today!