

Study Guide for Nov. 15th, 2009. Life of Abraham: The Faith to Leave: Genesis 24:28-67.

Introduction: Relate a story when you sensed God clearly led you in fulfilling a need.

I. Announcement and reception. (Gen. 24: 28-33)

1. What is Rebekah's immediate response? Describe her emotional state?
2. What is Laban's response? What does he offer? What motivates him?
3. How does the servant respond to this expression of hospitality? Why?

II. The story retold. (Gen. 24:34-49)

1. How does the servant identify himself? How does he describe Abraham?
2. How is the bridegroom introduced? What kind of bride is Abraham looking for?
3. How did the servant convey his sense of God's leading in his search?
4. What response does the servant request from Rebekah's family?
5. What is the value of retelling stories of God's guidance? (See Ps. 78:1-7)

III. Recognition, celebration, and equivocation. (Gen. 24:50-56)

1. What is the conclusion of the male leadership in the home to Abraham's servant?
2. How does the servant respond . . .
 - a) . . . before the Lord?
 - b) . . . to the family?
 - c) . . . to Rebekah?
3. What obstacle arises the next morning?
4. How would you describe the servant with his insistence on departing that day?

IV. Decision and departure. (Gen. 24:57-61)

1. What question is posed to Rebekah? What is her response?
2. Evaluate Rebekah's decision to go in light of Gen. 2:24-25 & Luke 14:25-27
3. How is Rebekah sent off by her family?

V. Arrival and introduction. (Gen. 24:62-67)

1. Where had Isaac been when he is first mentioned? Why is that place significant?
2. Why do you think Rebekah dismounts and veils her face before Isaac?
3. How does the servant introduce Isaac and Rebekah to each other?
4. How does this "boy meets girl" end?

Conclusions: What lessons can we draw from this story as we think about . . .

a) . . . Abraham?

b) . . . Rebekah?

c) . . . the servant?

d) . . . Isaac?