

A Bride for Isaac (Faith meets Providence)
Genesis 24

Abraham desires a wife for Isaac from his own people, and sends a trusted servant to do the seeming impossible. Courageous faith and divine providence meet in this timeless story, and highlight timeless truths that inspire those who desire to live godly lives to this day.

A Bride for Isaac

Commission: Find a wife for Isaac from his people (1-9)

Providence: "Lead me to the one You have chosen" (10-27)

Consent: Rebekah agrees to become Isaac's wife (28-61)

Consummation: Isaac and Rebekah meet, and wed (62-67)

Lessons for Life

- Courageous obedience achieves godly goals

- Trust the Lord in the 'big areas' of life

- Moral excellence receives God's blessing

**Seek his will in all you do,
and he will show you which path to
take.**

Proverbs 3.6 NLT



Digging Deeper

1. Genesis 24 doesn't say much about Abraham, but his actions at the outset are significant. How would you describe Abraham's circumstances from v1? He could 'rest on his laurels,' but he is looking to the future instead. Why do you think he wants to get a wife for Isaac from his own people instead of the Canaanites? What is he *most concerned* with passing on to the generation to come? What are we most concerned to pass on to our children?

2. In the story of Abraham finding a wife for Isaac, two things are highlighted: First, faith demonstrated by courageous obedience; second, divine providence that rewards faithful obedience with blessing. Read through the chapter quickly: What examples of courageous obedience can you find? What examples of divine providence operating 'behind the scenes' to bring success? Can you think of a way to apply this dynamic in your life?

3. Woven into the story – again somewhat 'behind the scenes' – is a message concerning moral excellence. How old was Isaac at this time (see 25.20)? As the heir to a fortune, Canaanite fathers would have welcomed him as son-in-law! The Canaanites were not known for moral purity: Imagine the temptation Isaac must have resisted. How is Rebekah depicted in v16? Mesopotamian culture was not known for moral purity; Rebekah was. Imagine temptations she may have faced as an attractive young woman. This kind of virtue is no accident; it grows in a context of faith. How can parents today communicate moral excellence to their children, growing up in a morally impure culture?

4. Abraham's servant (possibly Eliezer; see 15.2 and 24.2) shows a remarkable trust in God, coupled with gratitude. Focus on his part in the story. What challenges did he face in finding a wife? (How far was his trip from Hebron to Ur?) How does he show his faith in God? What is his response when he discovers that Rebekah is the granddaughter of Abraham's brother (vv26-27)?

What other evidences of exemplary character can you find in his actions?

A Bride for Isaac (Faith meets Providence)
Genesis 24

Abraham desires a wife for Isaac from his own people, and sends a trusted servant to do the seeming impossible. Courageous faith and divine providence meet in this timeless story, and highlight timeless truths that inspire those who desire to live godly lives to this day.

A Bride for Isaac

Commission: Find a wife for Isaac from his people (1-9)

Providence: "Lead me to the one You have chosen" (10-27)

Consent: Rebekah agrees to become Isaac's wife (28-61)

Consummation: Isaac and Rebekah meet, and wed (62-67)

Lessons for Life

- Courageous obedience achieves godly goals

- Trust the Lord in the 'big areas' of life

- Moral excellence receives God's blessing

**Seek his will in all you do,
and he will show you which path to
take.**

Proverbs 3.6 NLT



Digging Deeper

1. Genesis 24 doesn't say much about Abraham, but his actions at the outset are significant. How would you describe Abraham's circumstances from v1? He could 'rest on his laurels,' but he is looking to the future instead. Why do you think he wants to get a wife for Isaac from his own people instead of the Canaanites? What is he *most concerned* with passing on to the generation to come? What are we most concerned to pass on to our children?

2. In the story of Abraham finding a wife for Isaac, two things are highlighted: First, faith demonstrated by courageous obedience; second, divine providence that rewards faithful obedience with blessing. Read through the chapter quickly: What examples of courageous obedience can you find? What examples of divine providence operating 'behind the scenes' to bring success? Can you think of a way to apply this dynamic in your life?

3. Woven into the story – again somewhat 'behind the scenes' – is a message concerning moral excellence. How old was Isaac at this time (see 25.20)? As the heir to a fortune, Canaanite fathers would have welcomed him as son-in-law! The Canaanites were not known for moral purity: Imagine the temptation Isaac must have resisted. How is Rebekah depicted in v16? Mesopotamian culture was not known for moral purity; Rebekah was. Imagine temptations she may have faced as an attractive young woman. This kind of virtue is no accident; it grows in a context of faith. How can parents today communicate moral excellence to their children, growing up in a morally impure culture?

4. Abraham's servant (possibly Eliezer; see 15.2 and 24.2) shows a remarkable trust in God, coupled with gratitude. Focus on his part in the story. What challenges did he face in finding a wife? (How far was his trip from Hebron to Ur?) How does he show his faith in God? What is his response when he discovers that Rebekah is the granddaughter of Abraham's brother (vv26-27)?

What other evidences of exemplary character can you find in his actions?