

LESSONS THIS QUARTER.....

- 1) Dec 02 Gen 1:1 – 2:25 Affirm God’s Good Plan
- 2) Dec 09 Gen 3:1 – 4:26 Admit Your Sin Problem
- 3) Dec 16 Gen 5:1 – 8:14 Aspire to Walk with God
- 4) Dec 23 John 1:1-18 Accept God’s Promised Savior
- 5) Dec 30 Gen 8:15 – 9:29 New Opportunities
- 6) Jan 06 Gen 10:1 – 11:32 Human Pride
- 7) Jan 13 Gen 12:1 – 14:24 God Allows Us to Choose
- 8) Jan 20 Gen 1:27; 9:6; Matt; Mark Value of Life
- 9) Jan 27 Gen 15:1 – 17:27 Lord’s Promises
- 10) Feb 03 Gen 18:1 – 19:38 Caring for Others
- 11) Feb 10 Gen 20:1 – 23:20 Faith & Obedience
- 12) Feb 17 Gen 24:1-67 **Godly Guidance**
- 13) Feb 24 Gen 25:1 – 27:46 Helpful or Exploiter

INTRODUCTION / QUESTIONS / COMMENTS/

- If you were a vulnerable 16 year old girl, would you go off on a moment’s notice with a total stranger who told you a whopper of a story – and he’s a servant?

Passage	Comments
24:1-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abraham has his trusty servant find a mate for Isaac • Why wasn’t Isaac allowed to find a wife?.....vv5,6 • Criteria for a mate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Could not be a girl from the neighborhood ♦ Must be a relative • But what if the girl doesn’t want to marry Isaac? (then the servant is free from his oath).....v7 • It’s a done deal – there will be a girl for Isaac – and she’s got the freedom to choosev8 • Knowledge of cultural customs is part of biblical interpretation. Hand under the thigh is equivalent to us swearing on the Biblev9
24:10-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Camels! That’s a lot of stuff to carry.....v10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ 1 camel can carry 450 lbs for 40 miles/day ♦ 10 camels can carry 4500 lbs of stuff • Specific praying yields timely results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Let the right girl offer to provide water for the men and camels • Added bonuses vv16-20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Rebekah was gorgeous (inside and out) ♦ She was a virgin from the right family ♦ She was strong (carried water “up” from the well and “ran” to the well).....vv16 & 20
24:21-54	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitality in Nahor’s household and recanting of the servant’s trek to find Isaac a wife
24:55-61	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebekah’s quick and willful departure
24:62-67	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isaac enters the picture • Rebekah covers herself. WHY?v65 • Isaac apparently beds Rebekah– and she becomes his wife. Interesting concept of early marriages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Places of worship were not around yet ♦ Priests were basically the clan elder ♦ So their custom of marriage is strange to us

CONCLUSION

- Nahor’s logic and our logic are worlds apart
 - ♦ Recall from the Patriarch longevity chart that Nahor and his clan are not that far removed from NOAH
 - ♦ In fact, SHEM was still alive at that time
 - ♦ And Nahor was familiar with Abraham’s calling since he traveled with Abraham the first few years of his journey
 - ♦ So, such a story from a stranger resonated with him and his family
- Genesis Dating Principles – How to Find a Wife
 - ♦ Option #1Let God do it (Adam/Eve)
 - ♦ Option #2 Find your own (Cain)
 - ♦ Option #3Let your Momma do it (Hagar/Ishmael)
 - ♦ Option #4Let your servant do it (Isaac/Rebekah)

APPLICATIONS FOR TODAY

- Praying still works wonders – especially when spouse hunting
- God wants people who are WILLING to follow Him
- Watch out for gullibility. Seek ample proof before turning over any assets to someone else – even your children over to well meaning people, institutions (schools/colleges), even the TV(are they Godly?)
- Marriages come in many forms. Cultures may vary, but it’s God who still “joins together”

NEXT WEEK.... The Death of Abraham, birth of Jacob/Esau



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