

# Isaac and Rebekah

**Bible Story:** Isaac and Rebekah • Genesis 24

**Memory Verse:** <sup>29</sup> If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. *Galatians 3:29, NIV*

**Main Point:** God makes and keeps His promises.

**Christ Connection:** God provided Rebekah as a wife for Isaac as part of His covenant to bless the whole world through Abraham's family. One day, Jesus would be born into Abraham's family as the promised Savior.

## Leader Notes:

### Context

After God tested Abraham, Abraham named the place "The LORD Will Provide." (Gen. 22:14) God repeated His promise to Abraham: "I will indeed bless you and make your offspring as numerous as the stars of the sky ... And all the nations of the earth will be blessed by your offspring" (Gen. 22:17-18).

God blessed Abraham's life, and he was about 140 years old when he asked his most trusted servant to go to his relatives and find a wife for his 40-year-old son Isaac. Abraham believed God would keep His promise; he trusted that God had a wife for Isaac and that Isaac would have a family because he was the child chosen by God to carry the family line—to follow God, to lead the family, and to teach the next generation to follow God too.

Abraham's servant asked God for a clear sign of who should be Isaac's wife. When Rebekah appeared and agreed to give water to the servant—and also, she offered, to his camels—the servant knew God was at work. He responded with worship: "Blessed be the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who has not withheld his kindness and faithfulness from my master" (Gen. 24:27).

Rebekah introduced the servant to her family, including her brother Laban. The servant recounted the events, and everyone agreed the Lord had chosen Rebekah to be Isaac's wife. She traveled with the servant hundreds of miles to Abraham's house. When she saw Isaac, she covered herself with a veil. The servant told Isaac everything that had happened. Then Isaac married Rebekah and loved her.

God provided Rebekah as a wife for Isaac as part of His covenant to bless the whole world through Abraham's family. One day, Jesus would be born into Abraham's family as the promised Savior.

### Today's Passage

<sup>42</sup> "When I came to the spring today, I said, 'LORD, God of my master Abraham, if you will, please grant success to the journey on which I have come. <sup>43</sup> See, I am standing beside this spring. If a young woman comes out to draw water and I say to her, "Please let me drink a little water from your jar," <sup>44</sup> and if she says to me, "Drink, and I'll draw water for your camels too," let her be the one the LORD has chosen for my master's son.'

<sup>45</sup> "Before I finished praying in my heart, Rebekah came out, with her jar on her shoulder. She went down to the spring and drew water, and I said to her, 'Please give me a drink.'

<sup>46</sup> "She quickly lowered her jar from her shoulder and said, 'Drink, and I'll water your camels too.' So I drank, and she watered the camels also. **Genesis 24:42-46**

### Today's Takeaways

- Abraham trusted that God had a wife for Isaac, and he sent his servant to find her. How would the servant know who should be Isaac's wife?
- The servant prayed and asked God for help. He asked God to give him a sign so that he would know he had found the right woman for Isaac.
- The servant praised God because God had clearly answered the servant's prayer.
- **BL:** God gave Isaac a wife to keep His covenant with Abraham.
- Rebekah traveled with the servant back to the land of Canaan and met Isaac. Isaac married Rebekah and loved her.

## **Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (15 minutes)**

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.

Prepare to offer the following activities to 3-, 4-, 5- year olds as they arrive.

## **Upset the Farm**

**What you Need:** animal cards with string tied for necklace (1 for each kid)

**What You Do:**

- Assign each player an animal. By giving them a necklace to wear.
- For a smaller group, just use 3 animals. For a larger group, you will want to use all 6;)
- You will arrange everyone in a big circle of chairs. But make sure there is one less chair than players.
- The one player without the chair will be "IT" and stand in the center of the circle.
- They will call out a farm animal.
- The farm animal that they call will need to jump up and find another seat, meanwhile the person that is "IT" will hurry and snatch a seat.
- The player left without a seat is now "IT."
- And the game continues. Make sure everyone gets a turn to be "IT."
- You can make it a rule that each player must move at least 2 seats away, instead of just sliding to the next seat on their left or right.
- Another option that "IT" has, is to yell, "Upset the Farm!" In this case, EVERYONE has to get up and run to a new chair...and it's hilarious watching everyone scramble!

**What You Say:**

"Was that fun? Sometimes moving around, following God's plan or being with our family is a difficult thing to do. All of those things were hard for Abraham and his family too. In our Bible story we are going to learn about how God built Abraham's family to include Jesus. Let's go see what happens."

**Worship Time**

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

**Play the DVD of All Star Kids worship (choose 1 song for today)**

**What You Say:** "Way to go! You are such amazing singers. Now let's sit down to learn from the Bible today."

**Story Time: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways**

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

**Bible Story**

**What You Need:** Bible

**What You Do:** Place a bookmark at Genesis 24 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it.

**What You Say:**

"The Bible is called "the Word of God" because it contains God's words to us. Everything that God says is true, and all the words of the Bible are true. Today's story is from the first book of the Bible called Genesis. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an

even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

### **PLAY BIBLE STORY VIDEO**

#### **Talk about the Bible Story:**

God had kept His promise to bless Abraham. Abraham said to his servant, "Promise that you will go to my family and find a wife for Isaac." The servant promised and went on his journey until he came to a well. The servant prayed, "God, help me. When women come to this well, let the one you want Isaac to marry give my camels water." That is what happened! Rebekah gave the servant and the camels a drink. The servant was so happy, he praised God. He gave Rebekah bracelets and a ring. The servant went to Rebekah's house and told her family everything that happened. Rebekah and the servant traveled back to Canaan, and Isaac and Rebekah were married.

#### *Ask the following review Questions:*

What did Abraham want Isaac to do? (*get married*)

What did Abraham's servant ask God to help him do? (*find the right wife for Isaac*)

Who gave water to all the camels? (*Rebekah*)

Who thanked God for providing a wife for Isaac? (*the servant*)

***Why can we trust God? We can trust God because He is faithful.***

#### **Learn the Big Picture Question**

**What You Say:** Let's review our big picture question, ***Why can we trust God? We can trust God because He is faithful.*** God showed His faithfulness when **God gave Isaac a wife.**

#### **Practice the Memory Verse**

Open your Bible to Galatians 3:29. Read the memory verse aloud several times.

**What You Say:** "If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." **Abraham trusted God**, and God made Him a great promise. When we believe that God gave Jesus to die for us and rise again, He promises that we can be with Him forever!

Transition to small group.

### **Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (25 minutes)**

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Main Point that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

#### **1. Build a family**

**What You Need:** pipecleaners (about 6 for each kid)

**What You Do:**

- Give each kid 6 pipecleaners.
- Tell them they are going to use these to build a family. (They can bend and shape them to make their family)
- As they are building their families use the discussion questions to help review the Bible story.

**What You Say:** “ Good job forming families out of pipecleaners. When God gave Isaac a wife, He formed a new family. Only Isaac’s family wasn’t made out of pipecleaners, it was made out of real people. This was part of God’s promise to Abraham to give him a big family and bless the whole world. One day Jesus was born into this family.”

**2. Practice signing the Memory Verse**

**What you need:** Memory Verse Poster

**What You Do:**

- Show the poster to the kids
- As you say the words point to them on the poster
- Create simple hand motions to teach kids the memory verse. Sample hand motions include “**If you belong to Christ** (clasp hands together), **then you are Abraham’s seed**, (act like a seed growing from the ground) **and heirs according to the promise** (point to God)
- Our key passage tells us that when we believe Jesus is our savior, we get to be part of Abraham’s family, too!

**What You Say:** Our Bible verse tells us that God promised Abraham that his family would be very large. Did you know that Jesus was born in Abraham’s family? “Belonging to Christ” means that we believe that Jesus saved us from our sins by dying in our place and rising again! When we do that, God promises to be with us forever.

**Pray and Dismiss:**

**What You need:** no supplies needed

**What You Do:**

- Pray- “ God thank you for making promises and keeping them, even giving water to the camels. We thank you for Jesus and giving us a way to know you more. Help us to trust you like Abraham and his servant.”

**What You Say:** Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Send home the pipecleaner family with each kid.