

DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

As the people of God, we should be committed to reading Scripture every day. Here are daily readings and questions to help prompt your meditation. If you do not have a Bible, please contact the church office and we would be honored to provide one. To locate the passages, use the Table of Contents to find the page number of the book. The number before the colon will tell you the chapter to find. The numbers after the colon are the superscript numbers in your Bible indicating the verses to read.

Monday, May 22nd – Genesis 24:1-14

This week we move from Abraham's story into Isaac's story. What do we learn right off the bat (vs. 1)? If Sarah died at age 127, then at that time Abraham would have been 137 years old. Since this is not necessarily right after Sarah's death, Abraham would have been older still. What is it that Abraham asks of his servant (vss. 2-4)? Why is it important to have a bride from Abraham's family and not the Canaanite people? Think back to what we learned about the sons of Noah. Canaan was the grandson of Noah and bore the curse of his father, Ham's lineage. Abraham comes in the lineage of Noah's son Shem, the one who was blessed by Noah. That is why it cannot be a Canaanite woman. What is the servant's concern (vs. 5)? How does Abraham respond and why is this his response (vss. 6-8)? What does the servant do (vss. 9-11)? Once arriving outside his destination, the servant appears to be a bit nervous, after all this is a big responsibility. What action does the servant take (vss. 12-14)? The servant knew the mission, but was keenly aware that God had a plan and he needed a sign of who the right woman was for Isaac. Prayer is an important piece of our daily lives. We need God to guide us and lead us, not just give us things. What do you ask God for in prayer? Are you specific? Is there a Kingdom purpose? Is it for you or God's glory? Spend some time today in prayer, asking for direction to reach an unbeliever with God's love. See how God answers.

Tuesday, May 23rd – Genesis 24:15-27

We continue searching for a wife for Isaac today. In verse 15, to whom are we introduced? Do you remember reading that name last week? As you read verses 16-17, how is Rebekah described? Who makes the first contact? How does the servant's prayer get answered (vss. 18-20)? How do you think things are going? Notice how the servant responds in verses 21-22. What do you think the nose ring and bracelets represent? A Patriarchal Age engagement ring perhaps? Now comes the test to see if Rebekah is "the one." What does the servant ask her and how does Rebekah respond to him (vss. 23-25)? Imagine for a moment being the servant. This God you just prayed to is the God of your master, not necessarily your God, and this God has answered your prayer. We see what kind of response this creates in verses 25-27. Where has God answered your prayers in such concrete and tangible ways? What does this text reveal about God? What does this reveal about us, humanity? What does this tell you about your prayer life? Is it like the servants? Are you expecting God to respond? Are you praising God when he does?

Wednesday, May 24^h – Genesis 24:28-67

We begin today with Rebekah running home, wearing the bracelets and nose ring to let her family know what has happened. Who goes out to meet the servant and why (vss. 29-30)? How does Laban greet the servant (vss. 31-33)? This is the hospitality of the culture. Before dinner is

served, the servant is compelled to explain what has happened to him thus far. Read verses 34-48. This is the servant's recap of all that has happened. As we reach verse 49, we see that the servant pops the question. So how does Dad (Bethuel) and brother, Laban, respond to this request (vss. 50-51)? Notice that Rebekah has no say at this point in this proposal. How does the servant respond to the good news (vss. 51-54)? The gifts are called the Bride Price. As they wake up the next morning, we see the servant is ready to go. What glitch comes up (vs. 55)? Why do you think they want 10 days before they send Rebekah? Some Jewish Rabbis have said the delay tactic was her family disrupting the servant's plans, hoping Isaac would come himself. Who gets to resolve the matter (vss. 57-58)? What was her response? Now read verses 59-61. Notice the similarity in the blessing given to Rebekah to the promise made by God to Sarah. This indicates that Rebekah will now follow in Sarah's tradition. We complete the story of the wedding story with Rebekah's arrival. How does the marriage take place (vs. 67)? What does this tell us about marriage? What does this reveal about us, the church, being the bride of Christ? There is much repetitiveness in this story, because this text was originally verbal and the repetitiveness helped them memorize the story. This is our history as well. Just as we repeat how we met our spouses or about our wedding day, so this story is repeated for the same reasons. Ponder how this story impacts who you are as a child of the God whose salvation came from the seed of Abraham.

Thursday, May 25th – Genesis 25:1-11

We end this week by saying goodbye to Abraham. What happens to him in his old age (vss. 1-4)? Notice all the sons that are born to Abraham. Yet, even with all these additional sons, who gets the inheritance (vs. 5)? Yet Abraham does two very important things (vs. 6). Why do you think Abraham did this? Now read verses 6-11. How old was Abraham when he died? Did you notice who buried him? Where was he buried? Who received the blessing? This is the end of his story. Before we move on, consider what you learned about God through Abraham's story. Where did you see references and pointers to Jesus? What have you learned about yourself? Spend some time in prayer today, thanking God for revealing himself to you during this portion of the study.

Friday, May 26th – Genesis 25:12-18

Today we finish with Ishmael. It is his genealogy. How does this fulfill what God had said and promised regarding Ishmael? How old was Ishmael when he died? Where do Ishmael's descendants settle? Notice that this is on the other side of Egypt away from the Promised Land. Do you think that God's hand was in this? How does this allow God to fulfill his promises to Ishmael and Isaac? Finally, note how Ishmael's tribes lived (vs. 18). Just like God said in Genesis 16:12. As we finish this week, remember again the faithfulness of God. All of his promises come true, he is faithful in all that he says he will do, and he does all he says! How does this promise apply to your life?

Saturday, May 27th – Prepare for tomorrow by reading Genesis 25:19-26.