

## CGYG & LIFE Bible Study – Genesis 24:1 – 25:18

### Read Genesis 24:1-9

-What are some ways that God had blessed Abraham? (v.1, see also vv. 35-36; 12:1-3)

-Why would Abraham not have wanted Isaac to marry a Canaanite wife? (you might also consider Gen. 15:12-16; also, Exodus 34:15-16, Deut. 7:3-6)

-Why wouldn't Abraham allow Isaac to return to his native country (v.6-7, cf. Gen. 13:14-15; 17:8)?

-How could Abraham be so confident of his servant's success in finding a wife for Isaac? (cf. Gen. 17:19; 21:12)

### Read Genesis 24:10-67

-What sign did Abraham's servant ask God to give (v.12-14), and why do you think he asked for this? How did God answer his prayer?

-What kind of woman was Rebekah, as portrayed in this passage?

-Most commentators think the servant mentioned here was probably Eliezer of Damascus (Gen. 15:2). What can we, as servants of Christ, learn about servanthood from his example?

-Why do you think the events of this chapter are recounted twice?

-What can we learn about sharing our testimonies from the servant's example?

**Read Genesis 25:1-18**

-How do these verses show God beginning to fulfill His promises to Abraham? (cf. Gen 16:11-12; 17:3-7, 17-21)

-How does the Bible evaluate Abraham's life? (Hebrews 11:8-19; Romans 4:1-12; James 2:20-23) What lessons can we learn from his life to apply to ours today?

**Aliens and strangers in the world**

Abraham is held up in Scripture as the "father of all who believe" (Rom. 4:11) and the outstanding example of the life of faith that God blesses. By faith, we are told in Hebrews 11, Abraham left his native land – even though he didn't know where he was going – and made his home in the promised land. He obeyed God's call on his life, living in tents like a stranger in a foreign land, because he believed God's promises. By faith, Sarah was enabled to bear Isaac in her old age, and by faith, Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice and received him back from death. As he followed God by faith, he experienced the Lord's provision, guidance and protection, and the Lord blessed him "in every way" as he looked forward to the city with foundations, which God had prepared for him.

The blessings Abraham received are not for him alone, but for all who are of that same faith. As Galatians 3:9 says, "those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith." These promised blessings are found only through faith in Jesus Christ, who is the ultimate fulfillment of God's promises to Abraham. Just as Abraham was blessed in every way, those who believe in Jesus Christ have been blessed "with every spiritual blessing in Christ" (Eph. 1:3). And as we live by faith in Him, we also experience His provision, guidance and protection until that day when we too will arrive at the Heavenly City. Spend some time evaluating your own life in light of the lessons you've learned in our studies on the life of Abraham. Are you living each day by faith in Jesus Christ?