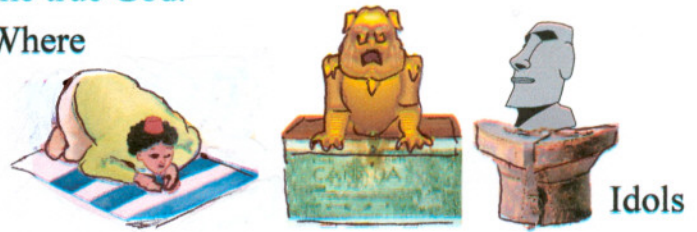


Genesis 24

Isaac was now a grown man who worked hard helping his father Abraham with the sheep and cattle and camels. Sometimes they had to move their tents to new pastures and had to dig wells to get water for their animals. Isaac was old enough to get married, but there were no girls who believed in God, living close by. The young women close to Isaac's home believed in statues called "idols." They might have a gold statue of a cow, or maybe a statue with a fish tail and a man's head, or a statue of a woman or man. The people who made these statues said they were gods. They said the statues could make the sunshine or the rain. They would bow down and pray to the statues instead of saying a prayer to the real God who made all the heaven and earth. Abraham didn't want his son to marry a girl who believed in idols. He wanted Isaac to have a wife who believed in the true God.

Abraham and Sarah talked often about this. Where could they find a wife for Isaac who would love the true God?



2.

One day Abraham got a message from some relatives who lived far away. They had a large family and they believed in God just as Abraham did. Abraham and Sarah thought perhaps this was where they could find a good wife for Isaac.

Abraham was too old to travel so far and Isaac was needed to help with all the sheep and cattle, also Abraham didn't want Isaac to leave the land and go live elsewhere, for this land was promised to Abraham and his sons and grandsons. God had promised all his offspring would live in this land, so Isaac must stay here. Abraham had a faithful servant named Eliezar, so Abraham asked Eliezar if he would travel to the distant city and see if there was a girl there who believed God and would be willing to marry Isaac. Eliezar said he would go, so Abraham loaded some camels with many presents for his relatives and Eliezar prepared for the trip..

Abraham sent many costly gifts of gold and silver, rings and bracelets and beautiful clothing. Eliezar traveled for many many days until he came to the town when Abraham's relative Laban lived.

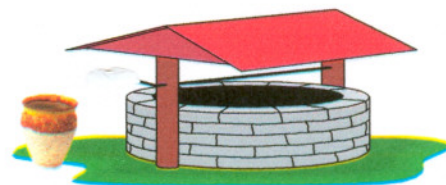


How would you like to town in order to get a bucket of water to bring home and brush you teeth? In those days the houses didn't have bathrooms or kitchens with running water. In order to get any water in the house, women would go the a big well in the city and take jars and fill them from the well, then carry the water home. Everyone was careful about how much water they used, for it was hard work to bring enough water home for cooking and drinking and washing.

So when Eliezar reached the city, he took his camels to the big, deep, well in the center of the city. Eliezar wondered what he would do to find the right family. Would there be a daughter in that family who would be willing to come back home with him? Eliezar didn't know what to do, so he did what we should do when we are worried and don't know where to turn.

What do you think Eliezar did? What would you do if you were on your own and didn't have mom or dad there to help you decide things? Would you maybe say a prayer and ask God to help you?

That's exactly what Eliezar did!



BIBLE LESSON # 12

4.

Eliezar got down on his knees and prayed to God to help him find Abraham's relatives and to find right bride for Isaac. Eliezar said, "Lord, if a girl comes to the well, I will ask her for a drink of water, if she gives me a drink and then says, "I will water your camels also," may her be the right girl for Isaac.

Do you think God hears our prayers? Even though we can't see God, he can hear us and will answer our prayers. Eliezar looked up and here came a girl to the well with a big water jar on her shoulders. Eliezar thought he might have to ask several women to give him a drink before his prayer would be answered, but when Eliezar asked the girl for a drink, she immediately said, "yes, I'll be glad to give you a drink, and I'll be glad to water your camels also."

Eliezar was very happy! His prayer had been answered right away! He asked the girl what her name was and she said, "I'm Rebecca, my brother is Laban." Eliezar had found Abraham's relatives, and they had a young, beautiful girl just the right age to be a bride for Isaac! God truly heard his prayer.



Do you know what Eliezer did when he found that Rebecca was Abraham's relative? He bowed down once again and said another prayer! Why did he do that? Eliezer said a prayer to thank God. It's nice to be able to ask God to help us ... but it's also nice to say "thank you," when he does help, isn't it? If mom or dad gives you a cookie, what do you say? You say "thank you" don't you? So we should say "thank you" to God too.

Rebecca invited Eliezer to her home where he met her family. They were anxious to hear all about Abraham and Isaac. Eliezer told them he made this trip to find a bride for Isaac. He told how he had prayed at the well and how Rebecca said she would give him a drink and water the camels also, just like Eliezer had prayed. Then Eliezer asked if Rebecca would be willing to go home with him and become Isaac's bride. What do you think Rebecca said? Do you think she said "yes I will go?" or "no, I don't want to go?"

Rebecca believed in God and she wanted to marry a man who also believed in the true God, so Rebecca said, "Yes, I will go with you."



BIBLE LESSON # 12

6.

Then Eliezer gave them all the fine gifts that Abraham had sent and Rebecca's family had a big party before they said goodbye to their daughter. The next morning Rebecca and her maid packed up their things and they started out on the long journey with Eliezer.

Rebecca must have been a little worried and afraid. She wondered if she would like her new home and if she would like Isaac. Rebecca trusted God though, and she knew God would take care of her. Finally Eliezer told Rebecca that they were near Abraham and Isaac's home. When Rebecca looked up she saw a man walking in the fields. "Who is that?" she asked. "That's Isaac," he said. Rebecca quickly got off her camel and went to meet Isaac. They walked and talked and got to know each other, and guess what? They both found they loved each other. Abraham was happy too. He prepared a big wedding for Isaac and Rebecca and they lived very happily together. God took very good care of them, didn't he? He will take good care of us also!



Question Page

1. Who needed a wife...Abraham, Isaac or Eliezar?
2. Near Abraham's home there were people who believed something foolish - do you know what it was they prayed to? Idol statues or the true God?
3. Who did Abraham send to find a wife for Isaac? His son or his servant?
4. Which thing did Eliezer pray for at the well? A drink of water? A woman to bring him a drink of water or a woman to bring him a drink of water and give the camels water also?
5. Why did Eliezer pray to God after he found Rebecca?
6. What kind of presents did Abraham send to give Rebecca and her family?
7. When Eliezer asked Rebecca if she would go to Isaac's home, what did she answer?
8. What kind of animals did Eliezer and Rebecca ride on? Donkeys, Horses or Camels?
10. Did God take care of Rebecca and bring her safely to Isaac's home?
11. Will God take care of us?
12. Is it good to pray and tell God "thank you" when something nice happens to us?

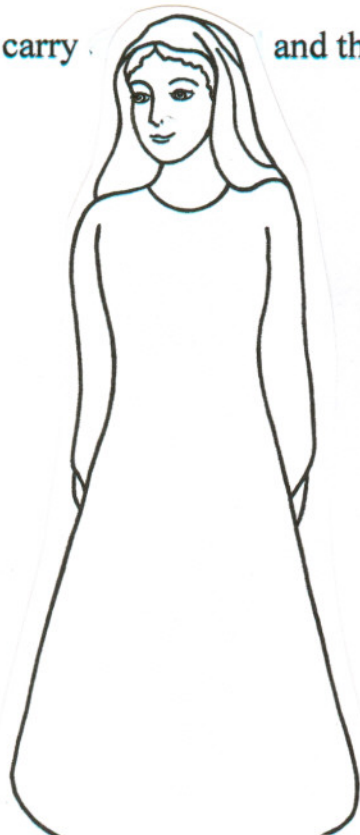
This camel is lonely, can you draw some more camels to be his friends? Draw some buckets of water so they won't be thirsty.



Eliezar traveled to a distant land to find a bride for Isaac. How did he travel? Circle the things Eliezar might have ridden on. Put an X by things you would like to ride on.



Give Rebecca a water jar to carry and then give her some pretty, colorful clothes with crayons or markers.



Help Eliezar and Rebecca find their way to Isaac's home by drawing a line on the right path

