

# REBEKAH

Making the Bible Come Alive

## The manipulator

### WHO WAS THIS PERSON?

- Rebekah in Hebrew means "to tie fast".
- Rebekah was the wife of Isaac: the promised child of Abraham and Sarah (Genesis 11:27-31).
- Rebekah was the mother of the first twins: Esau and Jacob. Esau was the father of the nation of Edom and Jacob of the nation of Israel.



### WHAT IS THIS PERSON KNOWN FOR?

- Rebekah was the daughter of Bethel and Milcah. She was very beautiful, virtuous and respectful. Abraham had asked his oldest servant to go to his homeland to find a wife for his son Isaac. He gave her his instructions. In those days, parents chose a husband or wife for their child. Abraham knew that God would guide his servant to find a wife for his son (Genesis 24).
- The servant wondered how he would recognize the one who was to become Isaac's wife. He needed God's help. He went to the land of Abraham, in Mesopotamia, more precisely to the city of Nahor. He stopped by a well so that the camels could rest. He then asked God: "This is my request. I will ask one of them, 'Please give me a drink from your jug.' If she says, 'Yes, have a drink, and I will water your camels, too!'—let her be the one you have selected as Isaac's wife. This is how I will know that you have shown unfailing love to my master." (Genesis 24:14) In the evening, the daughters of the townspeople came to draw water. The servant had not finished praying when he saw Rebekah. She looked beautiful. She took down her pitcher and filled it with water. The servant ran to her and said, "Please let me drink some water from your pitcher. When she had finished giving him a drink, she said to him, "I'll draw water for your camels, too..." (Genesis 24: 16-21) The servant asked her if there was room to spend the night in his father's house. The servant thanked God for leading him. The servant talked with the parents and with Rebekah's brother Laban about the mission that his master Abraham had given him. He met how God had brought him there. Her parents and Laban talked with Rebekah. She agreed to follow the servant to become Isaac's wife (Genesis 24:58).
- Isaac was out in the field meditating when he saw the servant with the camels. Rebekah saw Isaac. The servant told Isaac everything that had happened. Isaac took Rebekah as his wife and loved her





deeply. Rebekah was a comfort to Isaac after the death of his mother Sarah.

- God blessed Isaac and Rebekah with two sons: Esau and Jacob, the first twins (Genesis 25).

## WHY DO YOU THINK THIS PERSON HAS BEEN INCLUDED IN GOD'S STORY?

- **To remind us that we can ask God for help.** This is the first thing Abraham's servant did when he came to the well. He prayed to God that he would find a wife for Isaac. He even asked God for a sign. This should also be the first thing we do when we have a need, have to make a decision, or have a test. It is simple to talk to God. There is nothing too big or too small for him.
- **To remind us to care for others.** Rebekah gave Abraham's servant and the camels a drink. She then took him to his father. Jesus himself, by his words and actions, went from place to place doing good (Acts 10:38). God will honor the good we do for others (Matthew 5:16, 7:12, Philippians 2:4). How can we be attentive to the needs of others?
- **To remind ourselves that God has a plan for each of us.** God wants to guide us and show us the way. He wants to help us make the right choices and decisions. (Psalm 32:8)

## LIFE APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

**Pose the following two questions to your children, one at a time. Allow for interaction and discussion, letting them share their thoughts while you guide the conversation.**

- What life lessons can I learn from this Bible character about how I should and should not live?
- Based on what I have learned from this Bible character, how can I live in a way that is pleasing to God.

## MORE IN GOD'S WORD

Challenge yourself to find five minutes each day for a week, to quiet your spirit, finding a spot where you are not distracted, and practice just listening to God and being in tune with Him. Take your Bible to that quiet place. Use some of that time to pray, and some time to just meditate on His Word. Keep your ears and your heart open to what God is wanting to say to you. It's not a matter of IF He wants

to talk to you. He does want to speak. But, He also wants you to be ready and positioned for listening, so you can actually hear in your heart what He is saying. Then, respond in obedience with a heart that is open to what God would have you to do. God called Samuel three times. How many times is He calling you? The more you spend time in His presence, the less He will have to try calling you over and over again. Maybe you will hear His voice the very first time He calls!

