

Life Lessons from Rebekah

Various Scriptures

“And Isaac brought Rebekah into his mother Sarah’s tent, and she became his wife. He loved her deeply, and she was a special comfort to him after the death of his mother.” -Genesis 24:67 NLT

While most people are familiar with the patriarchs of the Bible, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, we are also blessed to learn from the examples of their wives. In preparing for this study, remember to pay close attention at how each of these women handle their challenges in life and stretch out their _____ in God.

Did you know?

*Rebekah was Abraham’s _____. Abraham’s brother Nahor along with his wife Milcah had a son named Bethuel who had a daughter named Rebekah. **Genesis 24:15; Genesis 24:47**

*Hebrew root meaning of Rebekah means to tie up or tie firmly. English word is fetter, hold back or restrain. Common term used to describe keeping horses and camels in place. In this case it is Rebekah’s captivating beauty that stopped people in their tracks! **Genesis 24:16; Genesis 26:7**

*Rebekah was from the land of _____. **Genesis 25:20**

*Rebekah’s story is told in **Genesis 24-27**

As we draw closer to this eye opening account of Rebekah’s life, what are some things that you value in a person more than their looks and why?

Personal Beauty:

In her interaction with Abraham’s servant, pay close attention to Rebekah’s beauty from within.

✓ She showed _____ to a complete stranger.

Genesis 24:17-18

✓ She was willing to _____ both the man and his camels.

Genesis 24:19-20

- ✓ She demonstrated _____ by welcoming him into her home.

Genesis 24:21-25

Do you believe inward beauty is promoted as much as outward beauty? Why or why not?

After Eliezer spoke with Rebekah's family about Abraham's his desire for Isaac to have a wife from his own family and how the Lord provided, they agreed to release Rebekah to be married to Isaac. **Genesis 24:34-61**

Real Beauty cont'd:

In Rebekah's first meeting with Isaac, notice how the writer puts special emphasis on her inward beauty.

- ✓ She dismounted her camel to show _____ for Isaac.

Genesis 24:64

- ✓ She covered herself with a veil to _____ Isaac in their union as husband and wife.

Genesis 24:65

- ✓ As Isaac's wife she provided _____ after the death of his mother.

Genesis 24:67

As we reflect on Rebekah's beauty, what are some things that the Lord is showing you about your inward beauty?

Spiritual Beauty:

After Isaac and Rebekah become married, the next thing we read about them is their struggle to have children. In spite of this shame and embarrassment, Isaac _____ with the Lord on behalf of his wife. **Genesis 25:20**

Not long afterwards the Lord granted his request and blessed Rebekah to conceive. Another problem arose, this time inside of Rebekah womb. She could literally feel the babies _____ within her. She said, "If all is well, why am I like this?" This time, Rebekah calls on the Lord and ask what is going on. The Lord tells her two nations are struggling in her womb, two groups of people will be separated in her body and the _____ one will serve the _____ one.

Genesis 25:23

In your struggles in life, who do you call on for help? Why is it so hard for us to cry out to God in our time of need?

Both Isaac and Rebekah remind us to call and cry out to God and He will answer according to His will.

Family Beauty??

Although Rebekah possessed personal and spiritual beauty, there were however other areas where she struggled and needed improvement. Like so many of us today, that area was in the dynamics of her family. As the boys grew up, the Bible tells us that Isaac began to show favoritism with Esau and Rebekah began to show favoritism with Jacob. **Genesis 25:28**

Isaac love Esau because he was a _____, and Rebekah love Jacob because he was a _____.

This struggle became so intense that the special blessing given to the first born separated the parents. Isaac had in his heart to bless Esau but Rebekah wanted Jacob to receive God's special blessing. **Genesis 27:1-10**

Notice the great lengths Rebekah was willing to go.... Genesis 27:11-12

*She was willing to be _____. **Genesis 27:13**

*She deceived her husband by preparing the _____ and insisting that Jacob wear the _____. **Genesis 27:1**

Consequences:

Isaac: betrayed, helpless and grieved.....**Genesis 27:33;35;44-45**

Rebekah: pain of a broken home and became weary of life.....**Genesis 27:46**

Esau: broken trust, bitterness and anger**Genesis 27:34;38;41**

Jacob: feared his life, separated from his family.....**Genesis 27:42**

In looking at the affects of favoritism and betrayal in the family, what are some actions we can take to avoid this happening in our homes today?

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What was you biggest takeaway from Rebekah’s life story? Why?

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Parental favoritism hurts the family. However, in this situation we now know that God chose Jacob to become the father of the 12 tribes of Israel and to bless all of his sons. Take a moment to remember how God has chosen and equipped you to be a blessing in this world.

“Beauty doesn’t rinse off” -Anonymous