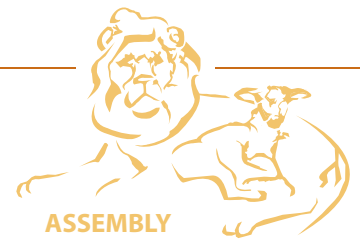


GOD PROVIDES A WIFE FOR ISAAC

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: GENESIS 24



You may want to re-read parts of the story. Try highlighting the main events in the story and reading them together to form a condensed Bible reading.

The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.

LESSON IDEAS

FLANNEL BOARD

This is a great story to retell using the flannel board. Separate out all the characters you would like to use and display them for the retelling of the story using your condensed Bible text. You can have three scenes: the well, Rebekah's home, and the field where she meets Isaac.

GOD IS SOVEREIGN

Read Acts 17:25-26

And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. (Acts 17:25-26)

Ask the following questions:

- Where do you live?
See how many children know where they live. Some may say their town or street address, others may just say they live in a house.
- Why do you live there?
You want them to connect this question with the scripture from Acts. The answer has two levels. First, because their dad chose the place. Second, because God provided the house and lead their dad to choose that particular house.
- What other things does God control?
Let them answer whatever they can think of. Elicit that God controls all things.
- What do we call God's ability to control all things?
God's sovereignty. Have them repeat the word several times then have them tell you the definition.

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TRUSTING GOD

Have one of the teachers pretend to be Abraham's servant and give the following monologue.

"Oh no! What am I going to do? My master Abraham has given me the job of finding a bride for his son Isaac. This is not an easy job! He loves Isaac. What if I pick the wrong girl? I just don't know what I can do. Who can help me?"

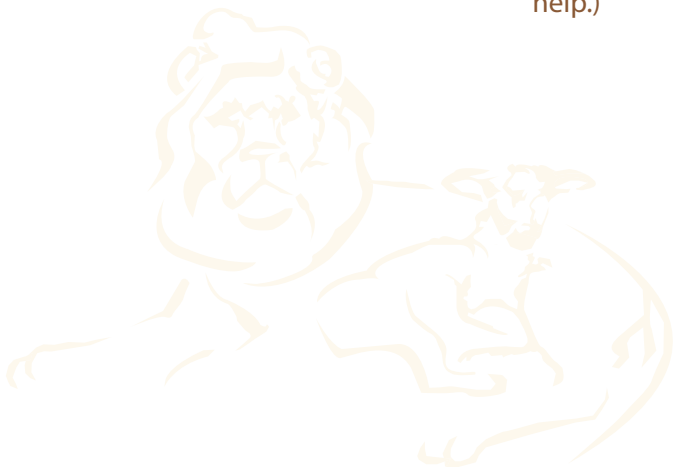
(At this point the person should begin to address the children)

"Can you help me? Can anyone tell me what I should do?"

(Children will raise their hands and start to give answers. The answer you are looking for is that the servant should pray. If no one in the class gives the correct answer, one of the teachers should prompt them.)

"Who should I pray to? (God) What should I ask him to do?" (Ask him to help you find the right girl.) Yes! Yes, that is what I will do! Surely God will help me. Lord, when I say to a girl, 'Please let down your jar that I may have a drink,' and she says, 'Drink and I'll water your camels too' – let her be the one you have chosen for your servant Isaac. Thank you so much for helping me. I forgot I could trust God to help me. Hey, here come the girls to the well. I'll see you later." (Teacher walks away and then comes back to ask the following questions.)

- What can we learn from this story for our own lives? (We can pray and ask God to help us when we have a job to do.)
- Why should we ask God for help? (He is all-powerful and able to help us. Asking God for help shows God that we know we are weak and need His help.)



GOD PROVIDES A WIFE FOR ISAAC

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Where Is Jesus?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

In Ephesians 1:11-12, Paul tells us that as Christians we are chosen according to his plan. Similarly God chose Rebekah for Isaac. Rebekah would be another godly wife in the lineage of Jesus. God works out his sovereign choice according to the plan of Christ, who works out everything in conformity to the purpose of his will. Abraham's servant prayed that the Lord would direct the choice of wives for Isaac and he did just that!

In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. (Ephesians 1:11-12)

