**LESSONS FROM GENESIS 24 AND 25**

1. **Read Genesis 24:1-9. DESIRING GOD’S WILL.**

Abraham trusted God, knew God’s promises (that Isaac was the child of the promise), and that who he married was very important. See Abraham’s wisdom…He knew his son well. Abraham knew he needed to send his servant, not his son to seek a wife. Abraham desired God’s will…that Isaac have a wife that was from his people, not from the ungodly Canaanites . Abraham desired God’s will. DO YOU? (See Proverbs 3:5-6)

1. **Read Genesis 24:10-60. DISCERNING GOD’S WILL.**

How do we discern God’s will? God does NOT give us a formula, the reason being that He wants us to know Him! The whole reason it is important to be in His will, it is the best place to know Him! The Lord has given us resources in knowing and understanding what His will is. In this passage, we see these.

**First resource:** God’s Word. God NEVER contradicts Himself. Knowing what He thinks and what He says is recorded in the Bible. The Scripture reveals God’s will regarding many, many things!

**Second resource**: Prayer (v.10-14) See this with the servant…note 4 points of his prayer:

1. Humility v.12
2. Expectant attitude: he believed God was going to answer him
3. Prayed in his master’s name (See John 15:16)
4. He asked for a practical sign

**Third resource**: Confirming circumstances (v.15-25)

**Fourth resource**: Inner peace (v.26-27)

WILL YOU ASK THE LORD FOR HIS GUIDANCE…FOR HIS WILL IN ALL AREAS OF YOUR LIFE?

ENCOURAGEMENT TO PARENTS and GRANDPARENTS: Example of Rebekah at well. Are you raising your children/ grandchildren to be concerned for others, giving towards others, willing to serve and work for others? (AMAZING EXAMPLE: Rebekah giving the servant water, then watering his flock!)

1. **Read Genesis 24:61-25:11)**  **DELIGHTING IN GOD’S WILL.**

See God’s match for Isaac. Servant takes Rebekah to Isaac.

WONDERFUL PICTURE OF WHAT ALL OF SCRIPTURE TELLS US:

God the Father has planned for the marriage of His Son, the Lord Jesus…He is waiting for His Bride. The Holy Spirit is the One Who goes to woo the bride, gives her gifts, reveals Who the Bridegroom is, and is the One Who takes her back to see the face of the Bridegroom (FACE TO FACE)!

Abraham foreshadows God the Father; Servant foreshadows Holy Spirit; Isaac foreshadows the Lord Jesus; Rebekah foreshadows the CHURCH (true believers)

ARE YOU IN HIS WILL TODAY? ARE YOU “IN ROUTE” TO SEE YOUR BRIDEGROOM FACE TO FACE?

1. **Read Genesis 25:12-34 DISREGARDING GOD’S WILL (DESPISING HIS WILL)**

**With Ishmael**, (Genesis 25:12-18) there is no evidence in Scripture that he ever turned to the Lord. Gen. 25:17 “He breathed his last and died and was gathered to his people”. HIS PEOPLE (Cain, Nimrod, and others who had refused to surrender to the Lord).

**With Esau** (Genesis 25:19-34) Esau thought so little of his spiritual advantages that he gave his birthright away, choosing the things of this world. ARE YOU DESPISING GOD’S WILL, OR DISREGARDING IT? THIS CHRISTMAS, WILL YOU ASK THE LORD TO HELP YOU NOT DISREGARD HIS WORD, BUT DAILY HAVE TIME IN IT SEEKING HIS WILL?