

**First Southern Baptist Church - 2-19-20w**  
**A Wife for Isaac - Genesis 24:1-14**

**Introduction**

1. The flow 23-24 is transitional
  - A. Abraham's brother is blessed (22:20-24)
  - B. Sarah dies (23) - bows out
  - C. Isaac finds a wife (24) tonight
  - D. Abraham dies (25:1-11) - bows out
  - E. Ishmael dies (25:12-18) - bows out
2. The need for a wife grows, because of Abraham's age and succession
3. Would the promise jump from Abraham to Isaac?
  - a place, a person or a people?
4. Abraham is dead, but the blessing is not

**I. Instructions**

1. The servant is one of high respect, or would not have been asked
  - a high degree of trust (ultimate trust is in God)
2. The situation is grave/ important
3. Contingency?
  - just suppose she does not want to come... so the woman has a voice?
  - should he take Isaac to her? - no that would mean that Isaac would leave the land of promise
  - what exceptions?
4. From my family
  - unequally yoked, principle
5. The servant understands that he needs God's blessing
  - he gets it... this is an extension of God's promises
  - just how far do these promises extend?

**II. The Woman**

1. Rebekah
2. Sexual purity - who is this important? (16)\*
  - “girl” (14) - *nahara*
  - “virgin” - *betula*
  - “virgin” - *alma* - woman of girl-bearing age
  - Jesus' virgin birth
3. “Very beautiful” (16)

**III. The Sign/ test?**

1. For confirmation - a sign, and a test of character (hospitality)
2. Ten camels?
  - he requests water only for himself... she goes above and beyond to offer for the camels (19-21)
  - did it take ten camels to bear the gifts?
3. At this point she does not know his mission

4. Divine will and human cooperation
  - the “will of God” is human and divine together
5. The timing
6. He asks for grace “for his master, Abraham” - not himself (verses 10-14)
  - first thought is for the Lord
  - second thought is for his employer
  - last, for himself - “he led me straight to the house”

#### **IV. Hospitality**

1. To water
2. To negotiate with uncle
3. To wait for ten days

!!). The Church is the Bride of Christ

Abraham - God the Father

Servant - God the Holy Spirit

Isaac - God the Son

Rebekah - the church

#### **V. The Agreement**

1. Who made the agreement?
  - her father is Bethuel and seems to be passive, why?
2. Considerable wealth
  - ten camels
  - probable dress to go along with the camels
3. Two men negotiate but she has the final say (57-58)
  - Laban’s reputation - as a greedy negotiator (here, and at 29:25-27; 30:27-36)
  - they agree they cannot refuse since it is “God’s will”

#### **VI. God Answered His Prayer**

1. He gives God credit (42-48)
2. What’s love got to do with it? - verse 67
  - romance then marriage?
  - marriage then love?
  - You mean God orchestrates love?
3. Saw each other for the first time (63-64)