



"God's Invisible Influence on You"

Genesis 24:1-67

Abraham understands that he is part of God's plan to spiritually build into Isaac. Genesis 24:1-9

- Major objective: Protect Isaac from the pollution of the Canaanites. Genesis 9:25
- A parent's authentic relationship with God is essential to raising kids who love Jesus.

God writes the story of our lives with the invisible influence of His loving hand.

- *"He will send His angel before you, and you will take a wife for my son..."* Genesis 24:7
- God is personally involved in the details of our lives, mostly using ordinary means.
- The servant's faith & heart of dependency connects him to God's invisible influence. 24:12

God's invisible influence has been faithfully protecting Rebekah and shaping her character.

- Sexual purity is important to God - Virginity is not a joke to Him. Genesis 24:16
- Casual sex cheapens God's great plan - Choosing purity is a vote for God's very best.
- Rebekah was a hard worker with a good attitude. Genesis 24:17-20

The servant was humbled that God influenced the success of the mission. Genesis 24:26,27

- A flesh-driven man is inflated by success while a God-driven man is humbled by it.
- We are prone to quickly take credit for the success God has accomplished.

When we tell stories of the invisible influence of God, people are drawn to Him. Gen. 24:33-67

- *"...The matter comes from the LORD; so we cannot speak to you bad or good..."* 24:50
- *"...they called Rebekah... 'Will you go with this man?' And she said, 'I will go.'" 24:58*

Further Study and Pondering:

1. Does it sometimes seem to you as though God isn't involved in your daily life? Explain.
2. Further study - Connecting to and trusting in God's invisible presence: (Deuteronomy 31:6-8; Psalm 23:1-6; 139:5; Proverbs 3:5,6; Matthew 28:19,20; John 14:16-20; Romans 8:26-39; 1 John 4:4)
3. In your lifetime, how have cultural norms shifted concerning sexual standards? Explain.
4. Further study on sexual purity: (Proverbs 5:1-23; 7:1-27; 1 Corinthians 5:9-13; 6:12-20; 7:1-5; Ephesians 5:1-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4; James 4:7-10; 1 Peter 2:9-12; Revelation 21:6-9)
5. Action steps: Considering the above passages on sexual purity, are there steps of obedience you need to take in the areas of relationships, entertainments, and practices?
6. "The language of faith is thanksgiving." Can you explain this? Do a personal evaluation.
7. Look for a way this week to elevate the name of Christ among those with whom you do life.

"God, I give all of myself to You... I will follow You."