

Pearl Seeking

TREASURING HIS WORD

Let's do a quick overview of the entire Torah portion:

Monday:	Gen. 23	The death and burial of Sarah
Tuesday:	Gen. 24:1-31	A wife for Yitshaq
Wednesday:	Gen. 24:32-67	A wife for Yitshaq
Thursday:	Gen. 25:1-11	Abraham remarries and his death
Friday:	Gen. 25:12-18	Yishma'el's genealogy and his death

In this week's Parsha Pearls lesson, we will be covering the story of how Yitshaq got a wife. Now, let's read Gen. 24.

PARSHA POINTS

- Yahweh had blessed Abraham in every way - 24:1
- Abraham was about 140 (**arba'im me'ot**) years old (Gen. 17:17; 23:1-2) and Yitshaq (Isaac) was 40 (**arba'im**) years old (25:20) when Abraham called his oldest servant (**eved**) (possibly Eli'ezer - Gen. 15:2) to go to his family in Aram Naharayim, to find a wife for Yitshaq - 24:2-4
- Abraham told his servant that he did NOT want his son, Yitshaq, to go back with the servant to his homeland - 24:6-8
- Abraham made his servant put his hand under Abraham's thigh and make an oath to do this instruction - 24:2-3, 9
- The servant left with 10 (**eser**) camels (**gamal**) and gifts - 24:10
- The servant asked Yahweh for a sign: that the woman that Yahweh chose would meet him that day and show kindness to Abraham his master and help him fulfil his oath - 24:12
- He asked the woman to fill his jar (**kad**) and give him and his camels water (**mayim**) to drink - 24:14
- Ribqah (Rebekah), daughter of Bethu'el (who was also Abraham's nephew through his brother Nahor and his wife Milkah), came out to the fountain (well) with a jar on her shoulder - 24:15
- Ribqah gave the servant water, and drew water for his camels too, which was the very sign that the servant had asked of Yahweh - 24:18-20
- The servant watched her actions, in order to confirm that Yahweh had honored his request - 24:21



- The servant gave Ribqah 1 (**achat**) gold nose ring and 2 (**shtayim**) gold bracelets - 24:22
- Ribqah confirmed that she was related to Abraham through her grandfather Nahor - 24:24
- She told Abraham's servant that they could spend the night at her father's house - 24:25
- Ribqah's brother Laban ran out to meet them - 24:29
- Laban showed Abraham's servant hospitality by taking care of the camels and giving him food - 24:31-33
- Abraham's servant told Laban how much Yahweh had blessed Abraham with flocks and herds, camels and donkeys, silver and gold, as well as male and female servants - 24:35
- He explained to Laban about Abraham's request to find a wife for Abraham's heir Yitshaq, and that Ribqah had proven that she was the one that Yahweh wanted for Yitshaq - 24:37-48
- Abraham's servant still allowed Laban to make the final decision whether Ribqah was the right woman - 24:49
- Laban and Ribqah's father, Bethu'el, acknowledged that these events had come from Yahweh, and that they would allow Ribqah to go with Abraham's servant to marry Yitshaq - 24:50-51
- Abraham's servant bowed down before Yahweh to show his gratitude - 24:52
- Abraham's servant gave more gifts to Ribqah, and also to her brother Laban and to Ribqah's mother - 24:53
- Abraham's servant celebrated with Ribqah's family - 24:54
- Ribqah's family wanted to keep Abraham's servant there 10 more days, but Abraham's servant was resolved to leave the next day - 24:54-56
- They brought the matter before Ribqah and she also agreed that they should leave - 24:57-58
- Ribqah was given a blessing from her family before she left. She took along her nurse and other young women - 24:59-61
- When Yitshaq saw the camels approaching, Ribqah dismounted from her camel, veiled her face, and walked to meet him - 24:62-65
- Yitshaq took Ribqah to be his wife and was comforted after his mother's death - 24:67



DIGGING DEEPER

Parents/Teachers may choose to use these prompts for further discussion of the Torah portion.

- Genesis 16 tells the story of Yishma'el's birth. Although he is Abraham's firstborn son, Genesis 17 reveals that Yitshaq would fulfil the covenant with Yahweh (child of promise) and be Abraham's inheritor. Find verses that talk more about this. (21:3; also see Rom. 9:7-9, Gal. 4:28, Heb. 11:18)
- Why would Abraham tell the servant to place a hand under his thigh to seal his oath? Find other Scriptural references to this custom and discuss. (24:2)
- Find other marriages in the Scriptures that took place between relatives. Discuss why Yahweh would allow this. (24:4)
- Find other Scriptural references to nose rings and discuss their significance. (24:22, 47)
- Why did Ribqah cover herself with a veil when she met Yitshaq? (24:65)

