

The Characteristics of The Model Servant

The best place to learn about service is the Bible!

- Eliezer was Abraham's Servant.
- Abraham sent him to seek a wife for his son Isaac.
- Let's read Genesis 24



Genesis 24

- 24 Now Abraham was old, well advanced in age; and the Lord had blessed Abraham in all things. ² So Abraham said to the oldest servant of his house, **who ruled over all that he had**, “Please, put your hand under my thigh, ³ and I will make you swear by the Lord, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell; ⁴ but you shall go to my country and to my family, and take a wife for my son Isaac.”

Genesis 24

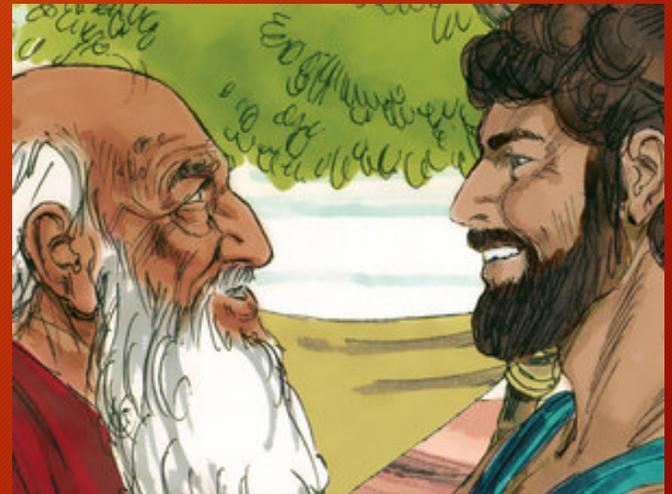
- ⁵ And the servant said to him, “Perhaps the woman will not be willing to follow me to this land. Must I take your son back to the land from which you came?”
- ⁶ But Abraham said to him, “Beware that you do not take my son back there. ⁷ The Lord God of heaven, who took me from my father’s house and from the land of my family, and who spoke to me and swore to me, saying, ‘To your descendants I give this land,’ He will send His angel before you, and you shall take a wife for my son from there. ⁸ And if the woman is not willing to follow you, then you will be released from this oath; only do not take my son back there.” ⁹ So the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and swore to him concerning this matter.

In the passage, what was the responsibility of the servant towards Abraham?

- A** He was Abraham's cupbearer
- B** He ruled all that Abraham had
- C** He was his main shepherd
- D** He was in charge of his wardrobe

TRAIT 1: He is dependable and trustworthy

- He trusted him.
- Eliezer was willing to serve his master in whatever capacity Abraham chose.
- He was also in charge of everything Abraham had.
- Eliezer made a promise, he took a binding oath that he would remain faithful to the purpose which Abraham had commissioned him.



TRAIT 1: He is dependable and trustworthy

- The servant of the Lord is bound in the same way to the Lord Jesus Christ whenever they first begin to follow Him. Jesus said that once we put our hand to the plow, we are not to look back (Luke 9:62). When we make a vow to the Lord, He expects us to keep it (Numbers 30:2).
- Commitment is a non-negotiable quality of a faithful servant of the Lord.
- Can God trust you with riches, to serve his people in whatever capacity? Can he trust you to with power and influence?

Genesis 24- CONT'd

- ¹⁰ Then the servant took ten of his master's camels and departed, for all his master's goods *were in* his hand. And he arose and went to Mesopotamia, to the city of Nahor.

TRAIT 2: He is equipped

- Abraham did not send Eliezer out to find a bride for his son empty-handed.
- Everything that Abraham had was at his disposal in order that he could accomplish the mission that Abraham had given him.
- God does the same thing for His own servants.
- God has equipped us with His Word, with His Holy Spirit, and with the assurance that whatsoever we ask in His name and according to His will shall be given.



TRAIT 2: He is equipped

- Abraham didn't put everything at the disposal of Eliezer so that Eliezer could enrich himself or impress others.
- He did it so that Eliezer would have the tools he needed to accomplish his mission.

Genesis 24- CONT'd

- ¹¹ And he made his camels kneel down outside the city by a well of water at evening time, the time when women go out to draw *water*. ¹² Then he said, “O Lord God of my master Abraham, please give me success this day, and show kindness to my master Abraham. ¹³ Behold, here I stand by the well of water, and the daughters of the men of the city are coming out to draw water. ¹⁴ Now let it be that the young woman to whom I say, ‘Please let down your pitcher that I may drink,’ and she says, ‘Drink, and I will also give your camels a drink’—let her be the one You have appointed for Your servant Isaac. And by this I will know that You have shown kindness to my master.”

What was the first thing Eliezer did on his mission?

A

He rested

B

He got straight to work

C

He recruited help

D

He prayed

TRAIT 3: He is a prayerful person

- Abraham servant knew the power of prayer,
- Knows that God is faithful and answers prayers.
- God wants to hear from us. He cares about his service even more than we do.



Genesis 24- CONT'd

- ¹⁵ And it happened, before he had finished speaking, that behold, Rebekah, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, came out with her pitcher on her shoulder. ¹⁶ Now the young woman *was* very beautiful to behold, a virgin; no man had known her. And she went down to the well, filled her pitcher, and came up. ¹⁷ And the servant ran to meet her and said, "Please let me drink a little water from your pitcher."

Genesis 24- CONT'd

- ¹⁸ So she said, “Drink, my lord.” Then she quickly let her pitcher down to her hand, and gave him a drink. ¹⁹ And when she had finished giving him a drink, she said, “I will draw *water* for your camels also, until they have finished drinking.” ²⁰ Then she quickly emptied her pitcher into the trough, ran back to the well to draw *water*, and drew for all his camels. ²¹ And the man, wondering at her, remained silent so as to know whether the Lord had made his journey prosperous or not.

Genesis 24- CONT'd

- ²² So it was, when the camels had finished drinking, that the man took a golden nose ring weighing half a shekel, and two bracelets for her wrists weighing ten *shekels* of gold, ²³ and said, “Whose daughter *are* you? Tell me, please, is there room *in* your father’s house for us to lodge?”
- ²⁴ So she said to him, “I *am* the daughter of Bethuel, Milcah’s son, whom she bore to Nahor.” ²⁵ Moreover she said to him, “We have both straw and feed enough, and room to lodge.”

Genesis 24- CONT'd

- ²⁶ Then the man bowed down his head and worshiped the Lord. ²⁷ And he said, “Blessed *be* the Lord God of my master Abraham, who has not forsaken His mercy and His truth toward my master. As for me, being on the way, the Lord led me to the house of my master’s brethren.” ²⁸ So the young woman ran and told her mother’s household these things.

Genesis 24- CONT'd

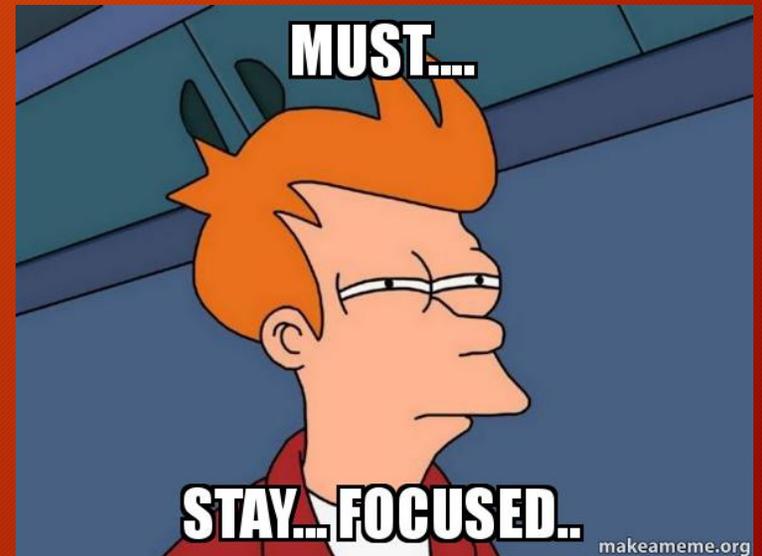
- ²⁹ Now Rebekah had a brother whose name *was* Laban, and Laban ran out to the man by the well. ³⁰ So it came to pass, when he saw the nose ring, and the bracelets on his sister's wrists, and when he heard the words of his sister Rebekah, saying, "Thus the man spoke to me," that he went to the man. And there he stood by the camels at the well. ³¹ And he said, "Come in, O blessed of the Lord! Why do you stand outside? For I have prepared the house, and a place for the camels."

Genesis 24- CONT'd

- ³²Then the man came to the house. And he unloaded the camels, and provided straw and feed for the camels, and water to wash his feet and the feet of the men who *were* with him. ³³*Food* was set before him to eat, but he said, “I will not eat until I have told about my errand.”
- And he said, “Speak on.”

TRAIT 4: He is earnest and dedicated

- The servant of God is faithful when he puts the will and desires of his Lord ahead of his own.
- He can take no comfort in having his own needs met until he has done what God has called him to do.
- The business of the King requires haste (1 Samuel 21:8).
- As servants of God we should not let anything hinder us from doing the work of God.



Genesis 24- CONT'd

- 34 So he said, “I am Abraham’s servant. 35 The Lord has blessed my master greatly, and he has become great; and He has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female servants, and camels and donkeys.

How did Eliezer introduce himself?

A

As Eliezer

B

As Abraham

C

As Abraham's Servant

D

He didn't introduce himself

TRAIT 5: He is anonymous and humble

- Eliezer did not try to praise himself, he directed all praise and discussion to his master.
- So many times we direct the praise of men unto ourselves instead of on the one who really deserve the attention.
- How often do we go about our “service” to the Lord, and all the while we are really seeking to glorify ourselves?



**WORK
HARD
STAY
HUMBLE**

Genesis 24- CONT'd

- 36 And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and to him he has given all that he has. 37 Now my master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I dwell; 38 but you shall go to my father's house and to my family, and take a wife for my son.' 39 And I said to my master, 'Perhaps the woman will not follow me.' 40 But he said to me, 'The Lord, before whom I walk, will send His angel with you and prosper your way; and you shall take a wife for my son from my family and from my father's house. 41 You will be clear from this oath when you arrive among my family; for if they will not give her to you, then you will be released from my oath.'

Genesis 24- CONT'd

- 42 “And this day I came to the well and said, ‘O Lord God of my master Abraham, if You will now prosper the way in which I go, 43 behold, I stand by the well of water; and it shall come to pass that when the virgin comes out to draw water, and I say to her, “Please give me a little water from your pitcher to drink,” 44 and she says to me, “Drink, and I will draw for your camels also,”—let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master’s son.’”

Genesis 24- CONT'd

- 45 “But before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah, coming out with her pitcher on her shoulder; and she went down to the well and drew water. And I said to her, ‘Please let me drink.’ 46 And she made haste and let her pitcher down from her shoulder, and said, ‘Drink, and I will give your camels a drink also.’

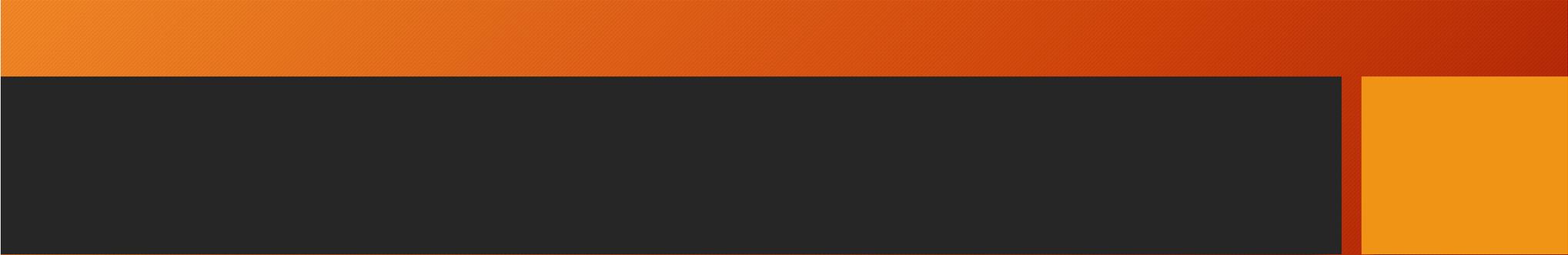
Genesis 24- CONT'd

- So I drank, and she gave the camels a drink also. 47 Then I asked her, and said, 'Whose daughter are you?' And she said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the nose ring on her nose and the bracelets on her wrists. 48 And I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord, and blessed the Lord God of my master Abraham, who had led me in the way of truth to take the daughter of my master's brother for his son.

TRAIT 6: He gives God the glory

- Eliezer acknowledged that it was God who had made his journey successful, he did not do it by himself.
- Always give God the glory.





And Glory be to God forever
Amen.