

Going God's way Genesis 24:34-38,42-49,58-67

Abraham's servant is sent on a mission to find a wife for Isaac. He enlists God's help, praying that God will make the way clear and encounters Rebekah, who seemingly fits the brief. Rebekah commits herself to God's way by agreeing to leave her family and marry Isaac.

Read this week's passage:



Sometimes it's easy to see which way to go, but much harder to actually go that way! Try building your own marble run at home and share together about a time it's felt hard to go God's way.



Pray



What kind of blessing might you write for someone who is going God's way in a new direction or location – maybe getting married (like Rebekah), moving house, starting a new school or job? Decorate a card with this blessing.

EXPLORE



Rebekah answers God's call and her life changes completely. Find time this week to talk to those in your church who have also answered this call to ministry, service and/or missionary work. Alternatively, you could watch some interviews where Christians share their vocation stories.

Find more free Roots resources to reflect on this week's theme:



Living Scripture

'Will you go with this man?' Genesis 24:58

In a marriage service, before the vows themselves, we enact what was once a separate betrothal ceremony, asking both parties, 'Will you...?', to which (we hope!) both will answer, 'I will'. Here it seems that the teenage Rebekah is being asked a similar question, but in a rather different situation. For a start, she has never met the bridegroom! And why should she trust this strange visitor-matchmaker? It's a big decision: ultimately, it is about trust.

Some people can look back to a particular moment when they 'made a decision for Christ'; those baptized as adults publicly affirm their choice to turn from sin and follow Christ, and everyone present is asked whether they believe and trust in God. But these aren't one-off decisions: we have many opportunities every single day to trust God, to choose whether to go his way or our own way.

Why not take time this week to lay before God some of the choices and decisions you face? These can be big decisions or small, everyday ones, such as how you spend your time and money.

And why not take time each day to ask God to highlight every opportunity to trust God – and see what happens!

First impressions

- How much water does a camel need?
- What guides you when you need to make an important decision?
- Rebekah's generosity is a sign that she is going God's way. Is it obvious to others that God guides you?



Pray



Dear Lord, as we go out today, help us to go in your way and in your time. Watch over us in all our goings out and comings in, until, in your time, we see you face to face. Amen.

WALK

Go for a walk from your front door. Before you leave the house, ask God, 'Give us eyes to see what you want us to see'. At each junction, let a different member of the family pick which way to go. Consider: What would Jesus focus on in this street? Who would he be drawn towards? What prayers would he pray? Whose letterbox would he post a chocolate bar through?