

HANDOUT 18

DECIDE THE *HOW*

The video presentation “Decide the *How*” corresponds to the following chart. Read the chart to review Sister Butler’s readings of Genesis 24 (a repeat of the material from handout 16) and how she taught the chapter. The last column on the chart tells how Sister Butler taught the principles and doctrines.

WHAT			HOW
First Reading		Second Reading	Methods and Activities
Grouped Verses	Overview	Principles/Doctrines	
Genesis 24:1–9	Abraham commanded Isaac not to marry a Canaanite.	Marriage in the covenant is essential for full blessings.	<p>(search) Use a picture to identify the two main characters, Rebekah (see v. 15) and the servant (see v. 10).</p> <p>(analyze) Review footnotes 24:2<i>b</i> and 24:9<i>a</i>. The Joseph Smith Translation explains that Abraham said “thy hand under my <i>hand</i>.”</p> <p>(apply) Explain that “hand under my hand” is like today’s handshake.</p> <p>(apply) What was the servant’s assignment? (see vv. 3–4). Is this the way we find a spouse today?</p> <p>(search) Why was Abraham worried about who his son would marry? Who was he asking his servant to go and get? (see v. 4). Who was Isaac not to marry? (see v. 3).</p> <p>(apply) Would your parents be worried if you were living in a land of idol worshipers today?</p> <p>(analyze) What was Abraham’s purpose? Where should a righteous son marry his righteous wife?</p> <p>(apply) Why do your parents want you to marry in the temple? Why do you want to marry in the temple?</p> <p>(apply) Review President Spencer W. Kimball’s statement on page 29 of the <i>Old Testament Student Study Guide</i> (1998; item 34189): “When you ask that individual to be your companion for life. That’s the most important decision of your entire life!” Why is it the most important decision? You might want to write this statement in the margin of your scriptures.</p>
Genesis 24:10–15	The Lord guided Abraham’s servant in choosing Rebekah as a wife for Isaac.	Heavenly Father will guide us in important decisions in our lives.	<p>(search) What did this good servant do? What was the first thing he did?</p> <p>(analyze) Was that a good first thing to do?</p> <p>(apply) Why is it important for you to pray about the “most important decision of your entire life”? Who do you want in on that decision?</p>

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			<p>(apply) “And it came to pass, before he had done speaking” (v. 15) the Lord answered his prayer. Would you like to have your prayers answered that quickly? What does that tell you?</p> <p>(apply) When have you had such an experience? When has the Lord answered your prayers?</p>
Genesis 24:16–20	Rebekah has admirable qualities as a potential marriage partner.	Rebekah’s preparation resulted in a great blessing.	<p>(apply) If someone said to you, “I want you to choose a wife for my son,” what would you do?</p> <p>(search) Search for the qualities of Rebekah (see vv. 16–20).</p> <p>(apply) Do you want a spouse who is willing to work hard and who makes haste to do it? What else would you look for?</p>
Genesis 24:29–48	Abraham’s servant repeated the story for Laban and discussed the marriage proposal for Rebekah.		<p>(search) Look for how long the servant stayed (see v. 54).</p> <p>(analyze) Summarize the story of Laban.</p>
Genesis 24:49–58	Rebekah chose to go with Abraham’s servant.	We are blessed when we place God first in our lives.	<p>(search) Look for Rebekah’s role in the marriage proposal (see v. 57).</p> <p>(analyze) What was the question asked of Rebekah? What was her answer? (see v. 58).</p> <p>(apply) Take out your red pencil and mark “I will go” (v. 58). When the servant of God comes to you and says, “Come straight away,” what will your answer be?</p>
Genesis 24:59–60	Rebekah was blessed to be the mother of “thousands of millions.”	Our decisions about marriage can affect generations.	<p>(search) Look in verse 60 for what Rebekah was promised.</p> <p>(analyze) What does it mean to “be thou the mother of thousands of millions”? (v. 60).</p> <p>(apply) How many of you have had your patriarchal blessings? What tribe are you from? How does that fulfill verse 60? We are a fulfillment of the promised blessings!</p>
Genesis 24:62–67	Rebekah became Isaac’s wife, and he loved her.	Love grows deeper in the marriage relationship.	<p>(search) Identify words in verses 62–67 that show how Rebekah and Isaac felt about each other.</p> <p>(analyze) What does the sequence of events in verse 67 suggest about marriage and love?</p> <p>(apply) Summarize the principles you could liken to your life.</p>