

WHAT WOULD I LIKE TO CHANGE?

“One Life 1 Legacy” Part 5

GENESIS 24:1-57

Pastor Jeff Wall February 20, 2011

1. The first step is: determine your present position.

Ask • Where am I now?

- What would I like to change?

“Abraham was now old and well advanced in years, and the Lord had blessed him in every way.” Gen. 24:1

2. Step two: You describe exactly what you want.

“Don't get a wife for my son from the Canaanite girls who live around here. Instead, go back to my country, to the land of my relatives and get a wife for my son Isaac.” Gen. 24:3-4

- Ask • What do I want to be _____
- What do I want to do _____
 - What do I want to have _____
 - Why It has to have a payoff to it or won't hold you. _____

“The servant asked Abraham, ‘What if the woman is unwilling to leave her home and come back with me to this land?’” Gen. 24:5

3. Step three is: You need to find a promise from God.

Abraham said “The Lord brought me from the land of my relatives to this land and he SOLEMNLY PROMISED me that he would give this land to my descendants. So, he will send his angel before you, so that you can get a wife there for my son.” Gen. 24:7 (NCV)

4. The fourth thing that Eliazar did and you need to do it is ask God for help.

“Then Eliazar prayed, ‘O Lord, God of my master Abraham. Give me success and show this kindness to my master, Abraham. Help me to accomplish the purpose of my journey.’” Gen. 24:12 (NLT)

“So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it.” Hebrews 4:16 (NLT)

5. Identify the barriers.

Ask : Why don't I have it already?- Why am I not it - Why haven't I done it?

vs. 21 - Finding the right girl

vs. 58 - Getting her to say yes in faith

vs. 49 - Getting the parent consent

6. Create a step by step plan

“Eliazar took with him ten of Abraham's camels loaded with samples of the best of everything his master owned. He journeyed to Iraq, Nahor's village. There he made the camels kneel down outside the town beside a well. [a water well]. It was evening and the

women of the village were coming out to draw water. He thought 'I will ask one of them for a drink. If she says 'Yes, certainly, and I'll water your camels too' – let her be the one you have appointed as Isaac's wife.'”

“When the camels had finished drinking he gave her [Rebekah] a gold ring for her nose and two large bracelets for her wrists. 'Whose daughter are you?' he asked. 'Would your father have any room to put us up for the night?'”

- Ask
- How do I plan to get there?
 - How long will it take?

7. Be patient and persistent

He's not quick on the draw. The Bible says in verse 21 “*The servant quietly watched her.*[Rebecca] *He wanted to be sure the Lord had made his trip successful.*”

verse 33 “*Then the supper was served, but Abraham's servant said, 'I don't want to eat until I've told you why I've come.'*” [persistent and patient]. “*'All right,' said Laban [that's Rebekah's dad.] 'Tell us your mission.'*”

“*These things I plan won't happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely, the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled. If it seems slow, do not despair, for these things will surely come to pass. Just be patient! They will not be overdue a single day!*” Hab. 2:3 (LB)

One of the marks of maturity is learning the difference between No and Not yet.

Why does it take so long to reach your dream? Because God is more interested in what you are than what you do.

8. You must enlist a team for support

“*One person standing alone is easily attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three people are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.*” Eccles. 4:12 (NLT)

African proverb: “If you want to go fast, go by yourself. If you want to go far, go with others.”

Jesus: “*Wherever two or three come together in my name, there I will be with them!*” Matt. 18:20

9. You must pay the price.

“*Then Eliazar brought out gold and silver and articles of clothing and gave them to Rebekah; he also gave expensive gifts to her brother and her mother.*” Gen 24:53

- Ask
- What will it cost?
 - What am I willing to give?
 - Is it “the cause” worth the cost?