



Class 3, May 8

Class Goal: The disciples asked Jesus, “*Lord, teach us to pray!*” (Luke 11:1) It is a natural desire of believers to communicate with God. We will study the great prayers of the Bible so that we also know how to pray!

Prayers of Abraham’s Servant Eliezer

As Abraham was getting old, he gave his servant (probably Eliezer) a very challenging task, “Go and find a wife for my son Isaac. She must be of my own people (who were many miles away) rather than a local Canaanite. She also must be willing to move here since God has given us this land to me and my descendants.”

Eliezer promised a solemn oath to Abraham that he would do so. To his credit, as a faithful servant, he wanted to do right by Abraham, Isaac, the young lady, and God. He prayed that God would lead him to the right person, and he wanted confirmation from God.

Eliezer did use wisdom. As he approached the town of Nahor, where he knew he might meet Abraham’s relatives, he chose to arrive in the early evening hours—an hour when women would typically come to the water source (a well outside the city walls in this case) to draw water.

Eliezer prayed this prayer:

“Lord, God of my master Abraham, make me successful today, and show kindness to my master Abraham. See, I am standing beside this spring, and the daughters of the townspeople are coming out to draw water. May it be that when I say to a young woman, ‘Please let down your jar that I may have a drink,’ and she says, ‘Drink, and I’ll water your camels too’—let her be the one you have chosen for your servant Isaac. By this I will know that you have shown kindness to my master.” Genesis 24:12-14, NIV

After God answered the prayer, we come to these verses:

²⁶ Then the man bowed down and worshiped the Lord, saying, “Praise be to the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who has not abandoned his kindness and faithfulness to my master. As for me, the Lord has led me on the journey to the house of my master’s relatives.” Genesis 24:26-27

Lessons from the Actions and Prayers of Eliezer

As in every story and every prayer in the Bible, there is much to learn. Here are few of those lessons, focusing on prayer:

1. Prayer and W_____:

Praying does not mean we “sit back and let God do all the work.” Abraham paid a big price. He sent Eliezer with 10 camels and many servants on a long journey. Eliezer took a long and dangerous journey of many months. And Rebekah, on her part, agreed to travel to marry a man she had never met.

2. Prayer and T_____:

The foundation of this story is that Abraham, Eliezer, and Rebecca trusted that God knew what He was doing. As a result, they sought God’s plan and did not merely look to human decision making. People of prayer trust that God has a plan for the big decisions of life (Who should I marry? What should I study? Where should I live? What should be my life’s work?) and the more mundane daily decisions of life. No prayer is too big or too small for God!

3. Prayer and G_____:

God rewarded their trust and answered the prayer. God led them to Rebekah, a beautiful, godly, kind, helpful, and willing young lady. God often gives us far more than we deserve!

4. Prayer and C_____:

Eliezer wasn’t “testing God.” He asked God for some specific things to look for because He didn’t want to make a mistake—he wanted to be sure he was seeking God!

5. Prayer and G_____:

Eliezer didn’t stop when he received the answer. He worshiped (literally “fell down before God”) and praised and thanked God!