

## Bible background

Genesis 24

### Aim of lesson

- (a) To show how it is important to choose your friends carefully.
- (b) To show how the servant trusted God to help him.

### Preparation required

You will need a set of the cards from the activity sheet cut out for each child and a set to help tell the story. If you have very young children, you may like to glue the written halves in order on a sheet of paper or card, for the children to match the pictures to. You will also need crayons, glue and paper or card on which to stick pictures.

### Suggested outline of lesson

1. Show the children the first picture, and tell them how Abraham wanted his son Isaac to have a wife, and he was going to send his servant to find one. Explain that a wife is like a very special friend, and that Abraham thought it was important that Isaac's wife believed in God. Ask the children what they like about their friends - do they like people who make them laugh, or who are kind? Do their friends come to Sunday School with them?
2. Show the rest of the pictures, telling the story as you do. Stress how worried the servant would have been, and how he asked God to help him. Discuss with the children whether they ask God for help. What sort of things can God help them with?
3. Go through the story once more, this time reading the words on the picture captions to recapitulate.
4. Give the children a set of the 'jigsaw cards' each. Very young children can match the pictures to captions already glued on and can read with them to help them tell the story. Older children and those who can read can match the pairs and put them in the right order to tell the story.

### Alternative activities

1. Make water pots from modelling clay or dough. To make simple thumb pots, stick your thumb into a ball of dough/clay and then pinch and squeeze the sides into shape. Decorate your pots with patterns. (Supervise carefully if using cocktail sticks or other pointed tools.) Modelling clay can be left to dry out and salt dough can be baked slowly in the oven.
2. Make some jewellery for Rebekah by threading large beads on to string or laces or try dry pasta shapes threaded on to string or elastic. Rings and bracelets can be made by folding, scrunching or rolling foil. Decorate thin strips of card with shiny paper, sticky shapes or felt tip pens, then tape to form bangles or headbands

### Relevance to the children's lives

- (a) Encourage the class to think of how God can help them.
- (b) Does it matter what your friends are like? Do any of their friends believe in God?

### Prayer

Ask the children what they think the servant would have prayed.

### Verse

'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.' Hebrews 13:6.