

# How to be Offended

Week 4 - Mike Curl

“Our Helper”

**Icebreaker:** Reveal your funniest joke to the group.

## Texts for Discussion:

- Read **Genesis 24:1-11**
  - Why do you think Abraham didn’t want his son, Isaac, to have a Canaanite wife?
    - *If you want more reading: **Genesis 10:15-19, Exodus 34:11-16, and Deuteronomy 7:1-6** are a couple of examples.*
- Read **Genesis 24:12-20**
  - The servant (commonly believed to be Eliezer from **Genesis 15:2**) checks with God before deciding Rebekah is the one for Isaac.
  - Anything else stand out to you in this passage?
- Read **Genesis 24:50-67**
  - What do you think of the blessing given in **vs 60**? Does it sound familiar? (For a hint, see **Genesis 17:4**)

## Things to Consider:

- We are covering this story to gain a perspective on God’s journey with us. The relationship between us and God was severed but the Father has always desired it to be mended. He sent his son, Jesus, to Earth to be the perfect sacrifice—the payment (see **Genesis 24:47** and **53**)—for us. We were purchased from our slavery to sin and we serve the Father.
- All it takes for us is to acknowledge and accept Jesus as our Lord and saviour. We become part of the family of God. Read **Genesis 24:49** to see more of the parallel between Rebekah and us.
- In order to be offended properly, we must set aside our pride, show a genuine interest in others, and build up relationships rather than tear them down. We are to be peacemakers and ambassadors of Heaven. But, our nature gets in the way. Instead of listening we shout; instead of caring we hurt each other; instead of showing Jesus we just show ourselves. We need help and a guide to get this right. So Jesus sent Holy Spirit to guide us home (Heaven).
  - Paul captures this well in **Galatians 5:16-22**.

**Going Deeper:**

- The story of Abraham, Isaac, Rebekah, and Eliezer is just one way to parallel Holy Spirit's role in our lives (Abraham as the father, Isaac as the son, Eliezer as Holy Spirit).
  - We are like Rebekah: the bride promised to Jesus, to be taken care of, loved, and cherished forever!
- Talk about Holy Spirit's influence in your life, or discuss ways that you can better recognize his movements in you.

**Prayer:** One of Holy Spirit's roles in our lives is to intercede in our prayers. He knows what we want and what we need and communicates clearly with God the Father and the Son. This week, pray gratitude to Holy Spirit for helping you. Give thanks to God for saving us!