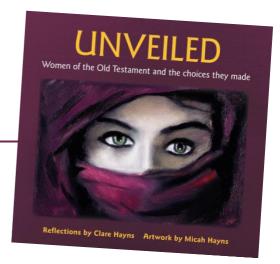
Unveiled

Women of the Old Testament and the choices they made

Discussion and reflection questions

Rebekah: faith and favouritism



Recommended reading

Genesis 24:50–58
Genesis 25:24–28
Genesis 27:1–10
Genesis 27:38–41
Genesis 33:1–4
Rebekah leaves her home to marry Isaac
Rebekah and Isaac show favouritism
Rebekah's plan for her favoured son
The consequences of favouritism
Jacob and Esau's relationship restored

Ouestions

- 1. Would you travel as far as Rebekah did to marry a stranger? How do you think Rebekah may have felt about her situation?
- 2. Patriarchal marriage negotiations may seem out of date to our ears, but in many parts of the world this is still common. What do you know about these practices?
- 3. Rebekah's children were very different. Why might Rebekah have favoured Jacob? Do you have experience of different personalities among siblings? How might this affect family dynamics?
- 4. What pressures do you think society places on those who are raising children today?
- 5. Jacob and Esau were deep in conflict for many years. How does our faith help us in situations of conflict?
- 6. Jacob and Esau eventually reconciled. Can you think of a relationship that has been repaired? How was the relationship restored?
- 7. Micah Hayns uses contrasting colours in Rebekah's scarf. What might this symbolise to us?

Prayer

God of love, through Jesus Christ you draw us into one great family of disciples. Help us to see others as you see them. Forgive us when our actions cause hurt and division and help us to love those whom we find difficult. Amen



