



YES, NO & MAYBE

11

1. The people in this room have not asked God for as many signs as they should have.
2. I ask God for providential signs on a frequent basis
3. Most people do not need a sign from God to know what He wants them to do.
4. I have never asked God for a providential sign.
5. God is willing to bend the laws of nature, even for me, so I can receive a sign from Him.

DIG DEEP

∞ How do you feel about asking God for signs? Is it for everybody, or just for a group who needs it??

READ: Genesis 24:9-21 (NLT)

9 So the servant took an oath by putting his hand under the thigh of his master, Abraham. He swore to follow Abraham's instructions. 10 Then he loaded ten of Abraham's camels with all kinds of expensive gifts from his master, and he traveled to distant Aram-naharaim. There he went to the town where Abraham's brother Nahor had settled. 11 He made the camels kneel beside a well just outside the town. It was evening, and the women were coming out to draw water.

12 "O Lord, God of my master, Abraham," he prayed. "Please give me success today, and show unfailing love to my master, Abraham. 13 See, I am standing here beside this spring, and the young women of the town are coming out to draw water. 14 This is my request. I will ask one of them, 'Please give me a drink from your jug.' If she says, 'Yes, have a drink, and I will water your camels, too!'—let her be the one you have selected as Isaac's wife. This is how I will know that you have shown unfailing love to my master."

15 Before he had finished praying, he saw a young woman named Rebekah coming out with her water jug on her shoulder. She was the daughter of Bethuel, who was the son of Abraham's brother Nahor and his wife, Milcah. 16 Rebekah was very beautiful and old enough to be married, but she was still a virgin. She went down to the spring, filled her jug, and came up again. 17 Running over to her, the servant said, "Please give me a little drink of water from your jug."

18 "Yes, my lord," she answered, "have a drink." And she quickly lowered her jug from her shoulder and gave him a drink. 19 When she had given him a drink, she said, "I'll draw water for your camels, too, until they have had enough to drink." 20 So she quickly emptied her jug into the watering trough and ran back to the well to draw water for all his camels.

21 The servant watched her in silence, wondering whether or not the Lord had given him success in his mission.

∞ Have you ever prayed for a sign? What I mean is this: Did you have a really important decision to make, and you decided to ask God for providence—like a manifestation of something that could not be confused with a coincidental happening? What was your experience, and what was it for?

° In this part of the story, Abraham's servant prays for a sign from God. Do you think God wished for the man to ask for providence, or merely honored the servant's request for a sign?

How
GOD
LEADS

DIG DEEP...CONTINUED

« In our lives, how much does God want us to rely on providential signs?

° **Verse 15** lets us know that “*before he had finished praying*” God had already enacted the physical manifestation of the servant’s prayer request. This would mean that God had gone back in time and set in motion the sign the servant requested. How do you feel about this, and what might this reveal about God’s character?

° When asking for providence, does God wish for you to think up something unlikely or impossible as the sign, or does He place on your heart what the providence should be?

NOTES

TALK WITH GOD THIS WEEK ABOUT...

1. How has God helped me make life decisions in the past?
2. What are some of the things I really need God’s providential guidance on?
3. What do I see more clearly about the character of God this week?



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