It was Abraham, Abraham's manservant, and Rebekah herself who seemed to make all the effort toward this marriage. All Isaac did was enter into the marriage.

This may be a parallel to your marriage (or conversion) to Christ.

It may be that other people did a lot of work and went to a great deal of trouble in order to convert you. Their sacrificial, dedicated, and prayerful work brought Christ to you. All you had to do was accept him.

Jacob's marriage to Rachel

In Jacob's case the opposite was true. He had to go on a long journey to find Rachel, then he had to work hard and long—14 years!—before he was permitted to marry her.

This may be the better parallel to your marriage (or conversion) to Christ.

It may be that you had to seek out Christ pretty much on your own.

Perhaps other people, rather than helping you, put obstacles in your way. You had to labor and struggle against odds in order to join yourself to Jesus Christ.

**Our marriage to Christ**

There is another way to see these stories as parallels to conversion. Abraham's manservant has something in common with Jacob.

Each man went to very great lengths of self sacrifice to bring about the marriage he was involved in.

Both went on a long journey. Both were seeking to help God fulfil his promise. Both were faithful. Both paid a price.

**A parallel with Christ**

In these two men, and in their desires and deeds, we can see a parallel to Jesus Christ.

**Seeking:** Christ did so much for us. He left his home and came to seek us (Lke 19:10).

**Serving:** He took the role of a Servant (Php 2:5-7, Zec 3:8).

**Suffering:** He suffered much for us, paying a heavy price (Mtt 20:28; 1Tm 2:5-6).

So we have become as it were his beloved bride (Eph 5:25-30, Rev 21:2).

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The story...

The elderly Abraham wanted Isaac to marry within his family. Abraham sent his most trusted manservant under oath to fetch a wife for Isaac.

The man travelled with valuable gifts to Mesopotamia. He came to the well outside Nahor, and waited prayerfully. While he was still praying a beautiful girl (Rebekah) came to draw water. He spoke to her and she graciously served him and drew water for him and his camels. This was the sign he had asked God for.

Abraham's manservant put a ring on Rebekah's nose and bracelets on her wrists. She then took him to her father's house. The manservant negotiated with Rebekah's father, brother, and mother, and they consulted with her. Everyone recognized God's hand in this matter. So Rebekah left her family and went willingly with the manservant to become Isaac's wife. After being wedded they fell in love.

Rebekah gave birth to twins, Esau and Jacob. When Jacob was grown up he journeyed to where Laban, Rebekkah's brother lived. At a well he met Rachel, Laban's daughter and was overjoyed. He served her by opening the well and watering her flocks. Laban, hearing of Jacob's arrival, ran to greet him and offer hospitality. Jacob fell in love with Rachel. He asked Laban to hire him for seven years, his wages being Rachel's hand in marriage. It was agreed.

But Laban tricked Jacob and when he awoke in the morning he found it was Leah, Rachel's older sister, whom he had bedded and wedded! So he worked another seven years and finally married Rachel.