

The Family Circus Week 2- Abraham's Family

The Bible teaches us that what God wants most for us is that we:

- 1) Become aware of our sinfulness
- 2 Realize we are powerlessness to save ourselves
- 3) Should believe and love his Son and the gospel he preached.
- 4) Are to graciously love one another. And it turns out that the family is an ideal place for all of these to occur.

The lineage of Christ so far:

- Adam to Seth
- Seth to Noah
- Noah had 3 sons Ham, Shem, and Japeth.
- Shem to Abraham

Genesis 11:30 ³⁰ Now Sarai was childless because she was not able to conceive.

Genesis 12:10-16 Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe. ¹¹ As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, "I know what a beautiful woman you are. ¹² When the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' Then they will kill me but will let you live. ¹³ Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you."

This shines light on something we often do, because if we want to do something wrong we can find some good reasons to justify doing it. **If you find yourself justifying and defending an action or inaction that may be a good time to re-evaluate what you're doing and why.**

¹⁴ When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that Sarai was a very beautiful woman. ¹⁵ And when Pharaoh's officials saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh, and she was taken into his palace. ¹⁶ He treated Abram well for her sake, and Abram acquired sheep and cattle, male and female donkeys, male and female servants, and camels.

Genesis 13:1-4 So Abram left Egypt and traveled north into the Negev, along with his wife and Lot and all that they owned. ² (Abram was very rich in livestock, silver, and gold.) ³ From the Negev, they continued traveling by stages toward Bethel, and they pitched their tents between Bethel and Ai, where they had camped before. ⁴ This was

the same place where Abram had built the altar, and there he worshiped the Lord again.

- “Have you ever thought, maybe God is telling me to stay put and trust him.”

Genesis 16:1-3 Now Sarai, Abram’s wife, had not been able to bear children for him. But she had an Egyptian servant named Hagar. ² So Sarai said to Abram, “The Lord has prevented me from having children. Go and sleep with my servant. Perhaps I can have children through her.” And Abram agreed with Sarai’s proposal. ³ So Sarai, Abram’s wife, took Hagar the Egyptian servant and gave her to Abram as a wife.

So Abram had sexual relations with Hagar, and she became pregnant. But when Hagar knew she was pregnant, she began to treat her mistress, Sarai, with contempt. ⁵ Then Sarai said to Abram, “This is all your fault! I put my servant into your arms, but now that she’s pregnant she treats me with contempt. The Lord will show who’s wrong—you or me!”

Genesis 16:6 Abram replied, “Look, she is your servant, so deal with her as you see fit.” Then Sarai treated Hagar so harshly that she finally ran away.

Genesis 21:8-13 When Isaac grew up and was about to be weaned, Abraham prepared a huge feast to celebrate the occasion. ⁹ But Sarah saw Ishmael—the son of Abraham and her Egyptian servant Hagar—making fun of her son, Isaac.^[b] ¹⁰ So she turned to Abraham and demanded, “Get rid of that slave woman and her son. He is not going to share the inheritance with my son, Isaac. I won’t have it!”

¹¹ This upset Abraham very much because Ishmael was his son. ¹² But God told Abraham, “Do not be upset over the boy and your servant. Do whatever Sarah tells you, for Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted.¹³ But I will also make a nation of the descendants of Hagar’s son because he is your son, too.”

Abraham and Sara’s earlier decisions have now affected their present lives.

Here is the hope: Their past decisions, wouldn’t detour God’s plan for their future.