

Abraham & Sarah (week 5: Waiting Well)
Scripture Reading: Genesis 16:1-16
Discussion Questions

1. This is the fifth week of our teaching series focused on Abraham and Sarah. Today's reading is Genesis 16:1-16, take time to read it for yourself. What stands out to you as you read? What questions do you have as you read?
2. Abraham and Sarah are told that they will have many descendants, but they are getting older and still have no children. Foolishly they take matters into their own hands. Their innocent Egyptian servant Hagar is taken advantage of and abused in the process. Think back to Genesis chapter 12, where do they get an Egyptian servant in the first place? What signs do we have that this abuse is not God's will?
3. We read of times where Abraham and Sarah are faithful to God, trust God, and do great things, but then we also have times where they don't trust God, take matters into their own hands, and create pain, suffering, and hardship. The abuse of Hagar at the hands of Abraham and Sarah is the ultimate example of their lack of trust in God's promises and His timing. Do you find it difficult to trust in God's timing? What examples of this can you think of in your own life?
4. This is a really rough passage to read. But even in the midst of her pain God reaches out to her. Blesses her and her son Ishmael and protects them. That is who our God is, He draws close to the broken hearted, and brings comfort, healing, and peace. Have you ever felt God comfort you during a difficult time? How did you know it was Him?