

MESSAGE NOTES

Genesis 16

What factors contribute to this mess?

A. Triangulation (v.1-4)

"Abram's wife took Hagar... and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife."

B. Fear (v. 2)

"The Lord has prevented me"

C. Compromise (v. 4)

"And he went in to Hagar..."

D. Harshness (v. 4-6)

"She looked with contempt on her mistress... Sarai dealt harshly with her."

E. Passivity (v. 2, 6)

"Abram listened to the voice of Sarai."
Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your servant is in your power."

How God responds to this mess?

(v.7) "The Lord found her"

(v. 13) "So she called the name of the Lord who spoke to her, You are a God of seeing."

(17:1) "The Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, I am God almighty, walk before me and be blameless."

LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Reference:

Open in prayer and read Genesis 16.

Review:

What was one thing from this weekend's message that challenged, confused, or stood out to you?

Reflect:

1. Hagar was the victim of both a system of oppression as a slave, and of the sins of Abram and Sarai in not trusting God to do what He promised. Who do you know that is the victim of oppression and/or the sins of others? How can you enter into their situation with the hope of the Gospel?

2. What promises from God are you still waiting on Him to deliver? Share the story of a time you felt tempted to "force God's hand."

3. The story told in Genesis displays a horrible lack of trust in God. Why would God keep His word to Abram even after Abram sinned by not trusting God? What does that tell us about the character of God?

Respond/Reinforce:

Check out the scriptures by participating in the Summer Bible Reading Plan. Choose the 30-day or 100-day option. Copies are available online or at the Connect Center. Read only the scriptures in blue if you are following the 30 day reading plan; read all of the scriptures if you are following the 100 day reading plan.