

Goldstone Church

Small Group Questions

Genesis 16:1-12

For Starting

- If you had this week over again what would you do differently? Explain why?
- Would you rather eliminate hunger and disease or be able to bring lasting world peace?
- What are the best part/s about being a part of Goldstone Church?
- What part/s of this Bible passage stand out?

For Reviewing

- Who did Sarah recommend to Abraham as a surrogate mother (v.1-2)? What did she do? Where was she from?
- Did Abraham make the surrogate pregnant (v.3-4a)?
- How did Sarah respond when Hagar despised her (v.4b-6a)?
- What did Hagar do to get away from the troubles (v.6b)? Where did she go (v.7)?
- What TWO instructions did the angel give to Hagar (v.9)?
- What promise did the angel give to Hagar (v.10)?
- Describe the characteristics of Hagar's unborn child (v.11-12)

For Discussion

- Why did God wait so long to give Abraham & Sarah a son?
- How do we sometimes second-guess God, as Sarah did? Why do we do this?
- "*God's delays are not His denials.*" Why is this often a hard truth for us to believe?
- How did God show grace and love to Hagar?
- "*God is never caught by surprise*". How does this truth encourage you when you go through testing times?
- How can the Devil use our impatience to keep us from being effective Christians?
- You could end by reading together Genesis 16:7.

Genesis 16:1-12 (NIVUK)

Hagar and Ishmael

¹ Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian maidservant named Hagar; ² so she said to Abram, "The Lord has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my maidservant; perhaps I can build a family through her."

Abram agreed to what Sarai said. ³ So after Abram had been living in Canaan ten years, Sarai his wife took her Egyptian maidservant Hagar and gave her to her husband to be his wife. ⁴ He slept with Hagar, and she conceived.

When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress. ⁵ Then Sarai said to Abram, "You are responsible for the wrong I am suffering. I put my servant in your arms, and now that she knows she is pregnant, she despises me. May the Lord judge between you and me."

⁶ "Your servant is in your hands," Abram said. "Do with her whatever you think best." Then Sarai ill-treated Hagar; so she fled from her.

⁷ The angel of the Lord found Hagar near a spring in the desert; it was the spring that is beside the road to Shur. ⁸ And he said, "Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going?"

"I'm running away from my mistress Sarai," she answered.

⁹ Then the angel of the Lord told her, "Go back to your mistress and submit to her." ¹⁰ The angel added, "I will so increase your descendants that they will be too numerous to count."

¹¹ The angel of the Lord also said to her:

"You are now with child
and you will have a son.
You shall name him Ishmael,
for the Lord has heard of your misery.

¹² He will be a wild donkey of a man;
his hand will be against everyone
and everyone's hand against him,
and he will live in hostility
towards all his brothers."