

## NOTES

June 25, 2017

### The Divine Promise Versus Human Solutions

#### Genesis 16: 1-16

Now Sarai, Abram's wife had borne him no children, and she had an Egyptian maid whose name was Hagar. <sup>2</sup> So Sarai said to Abram, "Now behold, the Lord has prevented me from bearing children. Please go in to my maid; perhaps I will obtain children through her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. <sup>3</sup> After Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Abram's wife Sarai took Hagar the Egyptian, her maid, and gave her to her husband Abram as his wife. <sup>4</sup> He went in to Hagar, and she conceived; and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her sight. <sup>5</sup> And Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done me be upon you. I gave my maid into your arms, but when she saw that she had conceived, I was despised in her sight. May the Lord judge between you and me." <sup>6</sup> But Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your maid is in your power; do to her what is good in your sight." So Sarai treated her harshly, and she fled from her presence. <sup>7</sup> Now the angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, by the spring on the way to Shur. <sup>8</sup> He said, "Hagar, Sarai's maid, where have you come from and where are you going?" And she said, "I am fleeing from the presence of my mistress Sarai." <sup>9</sup> Then the angel of the Lord said to her, "Return to your mistress, and submit yourself to her authority." <sup>10</sup> Moreover, the angel of the Lord said to her, "I will greatly multiply your descendants so that they will be too many to count." <sup>11</sup> The angel of the Lord said to her further, "Behold, you are with child, And you will bear a son; And you shall call his name Ishmael, Because the Lord has given heed to your affliction. <sup>12</sup> "He will be a wild donkey of a man, His hand will be against everyone, And everyone's hand will be against him; And he will live to the east of all his brothers." <sup>13</sup> Then she called the name of the Lord who spoke to her, "You are a God who sees"; for she said, "Have I even remained alive here after seeing Him?" <sup>14</sup> Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered. <sup>15</sup> So Hagar bore Abram a son; and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. <sup>16</sup> Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to him

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## Discussion Questions

### Genesis 16: 1-16

1. Who is Hagar and why is she an important person in the narrative?
2. What tension was created by Sarai as a result of her actions (Genesis 16: 1-6)? What important lessons can we learn from meddling in God's great plan?
3. What happens in Genesis 16: 7-14? Why does Hagar go to the wilderness? Who speaks to her there in the wilderness and what is promised? Read Genesis 16: 7, 9, 10 and 11.
4. How are these other verses similar to Genesis 16: 7-11? Please read Luke 1:30-33; Matthew 1: 20-24; Luke 1:13.
5. Other verses where Ishmael's story are told include: Genesis 16-17; 21: 8-20; 25: 12-18; 28: 8-9; 36:1-3
6. Friends: How are you doing today, this past week, or this year with growing in your Faith?

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