

God created a people through whom the Messiah would come.

# GENESIS 16

## **Where Are You Going**

Abraham: The Father of All Who Believe (Romans 4:11)

Lonely: sad because one has no friends or company

“Christmas guts me every year.

I already accept there will not be even a phone call for me.”

“I was the only kid that had no parents to kiss or hug them goodbye, because my mom was a single parent and couldn't afford to be late for work.”

“Loneliness to me is not knowing which direction to step, and watching those around me walk miles ahead without looking back.”

# GENESIS 12-15

God is gracious to call us shape us use us and give us direction!

God is patient and provides His grace so that we can:

keep working, keep growing,  
keep confessing & keep repenting.

Practice a deep, abiding trust in the loving, living God,  
peacemaking & affirming one another in the LORD.

Genesis 12:1 “Now the Lord said to Abram,

“**Go** forth from your country,

And from your relatives

And from your father’s house,

To the land which I will show you;

2 And **I will make you a great nation,**

**And I will bless you,**

And make your name great;

And so **you shall be a blessing;**

3 And I will bless those who bless you,

And the one who curses you I will curse.

**And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”**

Genesis 16:13 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?” 14 Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; behold, it is between Kadesh & Bered. 15 So Hagar bore Abram a son; and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. 16 Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to him.

Gen. 16:1 Now Sarai, Abram's wife had borne him no children, and she had an Egyptian maid whose name was Hagar. 2 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. 3 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.

1. Who told Sarai that the Lord would stop her from pregnancy?
2. Who did Abram listen to?

Genesis 16:4 He went in to Hagar, and she conceived; and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her sight. 5 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.” 6 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.

1. Sarai was not finding her identity & security in the Lord.
2. Abram & Sarai put Hagar in a hard spot.

Genesis 16:7 Now the angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, by the spring on the way to Shur. 8 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.” 9 Then the angel of the Lord said to her, “Return to your mistress, and submit yourself to her authority.” 10 Moreover, the angel of the Lord said to her, “I will greatly multiply your descendants so that they will be too many to count.”

1. There are two great questions everyone should process.
2. God’s directions and promises can be trusted.

Genesis 16:11 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.

12 “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.”

1. Ishmael means “God listens” or “God pays heed.”
2. In Arab & Muslim tradition, Ishmael is the ancestor.

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1. God pursues Hagar, sees Hagar & finds Hagar.
2. Slow down at “the well of the living One who looks for me.”

Loneliness is the opposite of being...  
...loved.  
...known.  
...cared for.

When we are lonely, then we don't have relationship.  
When we have relationships, we don't have loneliness.

Jesus, your Name is like honey on my lips.  
Jesus, your Spirit is like water to my soul.  
Jesus, your Word is a lamp unto my feet.



God's Glory



Gospel/Grace

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

**Find your identity in God's grace, glory and call.**

**Know that you are being pursued by God & relish it!**