

Making God's Promises Happen

Genesis 16

The Life of Abraham

Sunday, April 18, 2010

Making God's Promises Happen

Genesis 16

The Life of Abraham

Sunday, April 18, 2010

IV. God the _____

He opens Hagar's womb, but not Sarai's.

He allows sin and brokenness, when he might have prevented it.

He pursues a runaway to the wilderness.

Ishmael = God _____

- She calls Him the God who _____.

He promises protection and future.

He sends her back to submit.

He will accomplish his plan of grace even through this sinful and broken family.

3 Takeways:

1. Sin _____

2. Faith _____

3. God _____

I. Sarai the _____

Barren

Hopeless

She turns to the expedient, worldly custom, instead of to the Lord.

Blame-shifting

Abusive

II. Abram the _____

What happened to THAT guy?

He listens to the voice of Sarai, instead of leading her to the Lord.

He goes "down to Egypt again."

He fails to wage peace in his family.

III. Hagar the _____

She one-ups her mistress.

She rubs Sarai's nose in it.

She runs home, instead of to the Lord.

Stuff for Growth Groups

Making God's Promises Happen

Genesis 16

The Life of Abraham

Sunday, April 18, 2010

PREPARING to be with One Another

Use a separate sheet of paper or notebook to work through these questions in advance of your Growth Group gathering. The more people come prepared, the richer and deeper and more real our discussions will be with one another.

CONNECTING with One Another

Open your time by checking in with one another to see how you're doing and how one another's week was.

EXPLORING God's Word with One Another

Remember, we're giving you more than you can really discuss here. Pick a few questions that will take you back into the content of the passage and message.

1. Read Genesis 16 together.
2. What was most interesting and/or challenging for you in this week's text/message? What were the thoughts you had and/or the emotions you felt as you grappled with God's Word this week?
3. What's the problem that gives rise to this text?
4. Since the use of a concubine was socially acceptable and a practical solution to the Abram's childlessness, why was this a problem?

Stuff for Growth Groups

Making God's Promises Happen

Genesis 16

The Life of Abraham

Sunday, April 18, 2010

5. What is the significance of Hagar being Egyptian?
6. In this case "it takes 3 to tango." How do each of the 3 play a role in the sin, dysfunction and brokenness of the family? How do each exhibit a lack of faith and God-awareness/attentiveness?
7. Describe the surprising inaction and action of God in these events. How does this chapter 16 dovetail with and forcefully illustrate the point of chapter 15 and the "one sided grace covenant?"

APPLYING God's Word with One Another

1. What does this passage teach us about sin and its impact?
2. What does this passage teach us about the nature of faith?
3. What does this passage teach us about God and His work?
4. Where is your struggle to trust the Lord right now in your life?
5. What does this passage have to do with a commitment to the systematic study and teaching of God's Word?

PRAYING for One Another

1. Share personal requests.
2. Use the truth of the message as a "springboard" to pray for your personal growth, your Growth Group and the growth of our life together at GraceSLO.