



INTRODUCTION

Abram and Sarai decide they've waited long enough and seek to bring about God's plans by sinful means. They only succeed in showing once again their need for grace and God's patience with sinners.

INSTRUCTIONS

This guide is meant to facilitate discussion which will lead to a response to God's word. Therefore please use it as tool that best fits the needs of your community group.

OPENING DISCUSSION

- What was the most interesting idea/concept about Sunday's sermon?
- Why is waiting difficult?

REVIEW

- Have someone read **Gen 16**
- Why did God ask Abram and Sarai to wait so long for a son? Could they have guessed his reasons for delay?
- What does this story tell us about the nature of sin?
- Describe/list the sin that takes place in this passage.
- Why are there deliberate parallels to the fall of Adam and Eve?
- What questions does the Lord ask Hagar (**v8**)? Why are those helpful questions?
- What do you make of Hagar's response to the Lord's blessings (**v13**)?

APPLICATION

- When has God asked you to wait?
- How does waiting grow our faith? Why is that important?
- When has God called you into (or to remain) in a difficult situation?
- Why do we struggle to trust God when future is uncertain, or present is hard?
- Where are you not trusting God? What can you do strengthen your faith?
- How should this passage influence how we treat Arabs?

PRAYER (divide the group based on gender if desired)

- What action/repentance does God want you to take according to the truths of this text?
- Are there any other prayer needs?