

Genesis: Origin Stories! This is our topic as we walk through this incredible *book of beginnings*. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, each one has an incredible life story of walking with God. This morning we are looking at the origin story of a prominent figure who doesn't get talked about as much – Ishmael. The first born of Abraham, while not the child of promise, has a story that we need to know and understand. His story is a lifetime journey from being blessed to being stressed.

### **1. You are not Forgotten.**

Isaiah 55:8-9

Psalms 119:71

Chuck Swindoll, "I read the words from the biblical account, and my heart goes out to Joseph. I think Oh if there is ever a time to regard this man, reward him now, God! Regard him for saying no day after day after day to Potiphar's wife's advances. Reward him for running instead of yielding. But God is not through with His man, Joseph. God is not like us. He patiently and faithfully works in ways we would never employ. God sees far beyond this situation and knows what needs to be done deep within the recesses of Joseph's life as he prepares him for greatness in the years ahead."

AW Tozer, "It is doubtful whether God can bless a man greatly until He hurts him deeply."

No prayer is lost. Praying breath was never spent in vain. There is no such thing as prayer unanswered or unnoticed by God, and some things that we count refusals or denials are simply delays.

--H. Bonar

Christ sometimes delays His help that He may try our faith and quicken our prayers. The boat may be covered with the waves, and He sleeps on; but He will wake up before it sinks. He sleeps, but He never oversleeps; and there are no "too lates" with Him.

--Alexander MacLaren

### **2. God is always Working.**

John 5:17

"We can ignore even pleasure. But pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: it is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world."

— C.S. Lewis, The Problem of Pain

### **3. God's work is always Good.**

Romans 8:28

1 Peter 5:6

Chuck Swindoll "Pain, when properly handled, can shape a life for greatness."

## NEXT STEPS

---

**NEW HERE? CHECK OUT [EAGLECHURCH.COM/SUNDAY](http://EAGLECHURCH.COM/SUNDAY)  
STOP AT THE WELCOME KIOSK ON YOUR WAY OUT, WE HAVE A GIFT FOR YOU!**

- PRAYER SETS: SUNDAYS, 9AM | TUESDAYS, 10AM
- MEN'S GROUP: TAKING A BREAK FOR JULY
- WOMEN'S SUMMER INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY: WEDNESDAYS IN JULY | 10AM
- COLLEGE STUDENT BIBLE STUDY: WEDNESDAYS IN JULY | 7-9PM | SIMPSON HOUSE
- PRESCHOOL SPLASH PAD PLAYDATES: JULY 22 | 10AM
- IGNITE: JULY 23 - 27
- LAST SUMMER SPLASH: JULY 31 | 6:30-8:30PM

**FOR A COMPLETE CALENDAR OF EVENTS OR TO SIGN UP FOR ANY EVENT, GO TO  
[EAGLECHURCH.COM/EVENTS](http://EAGLECHURCH.COM/EVENTS)**

QUESTIONS: [INFO@EAGLECHURCH.COM](mailto:INFO@EAGLECHURCH.COM)  
PRAYER REQUESTS: [PRAYER@EAGLECHURCH.COM](mailto:PRAYER@EAGLECHURCH.COM)  
OFFERING: TEXT TO GIVE 877.597.0298  
[WWW.EAGLECHURCH.COM/GIVE](http://WWW.EAGLECHURCH.COM/GIVE)