

CALL ME ISHMAEL
GENESIS 16:1-4 / APRIL 23, 2017 PM

I. WHO WAS ISHMAEL?

- A. He was the first born son of Abraham--Gen. 16:1-4.
- B. His story is found in Genesis 16, 17, 21, 25, and 28.
- C. His name means "**God hears**" in Hebrew.
- D. A description of his character is found in Gen. 16:11-12.
- E. After Isaac was born he and his mother were sent away and they settled in the desert of Paran.
- F. God made a promise concerning Ishmael--Gen. 17:12-13.
- G. Ishmael is further described in Gen. 21:20-21.
- H. Ishmael had 12 sons.
- I. He had at least one daughter and she became the third wife of Jacob's brother, Esau.
- J. He came back to Canaan to help bury his father Abraham.
- K. Many Arabs consider Ishmael to be the ancestor of Mohammed through his son Kedar.
- L. Mohammed referred to Ishmael as a great prophet who was able to perform miracles.
- M. The Quran makes mention of Ishmael....
- N. Ishmael died at the age of 137.
- O. The Apostle Paul used him and his brother to illustrate the two covenants in the Bible--Law and Grace--Gal. 4:21-24a.

II. WHAT LESSONS CAN WE LEARN FROM ISHMAEL?

- A. Negative lessons from Ishmael.
 - 1. Family contention has consequences
 - a. First there was Hagar's contention with Sara--Gen. 16:4.
 - b. Next, there was Ishmael's contention with Isaac--Gen. 21:14a.

2. We reap what we sow--Gen. 16:12.
 3. The faults and failures of the father influence their children--Gen. 25:18.
- B. Positive lessons from Ishmael.
1. God hears us when we call out to him--Gen. 21:17.
 2. God helps us when we have needs--Gen. 21:19; Phil 4:19.