

Genesis 16

Genesis 16.1-6

V1 – What has the Bible already said about the marriage relationship? *Genesis 2.24* – one man and one woman

-Abram and Sarai knew this Scripture

-**Why would Abram and Sarai try to get around 2.24?** It had been many years since God gave them the promise about a son (*Genesis 15.4*)

-Whenever humans try to get around the Scriptures, they mess things up.

-**What was ancient attitude toward childlessness?** A terrible disgrace (*Psalms 127.3-5*)

V2 – What did Sarai suggest? That Abram and Hagar (Sarai's maid) try to have a baby

V3 – Abram listened to Sarai (a mistake)

V4 – What happened? Hagar became pregnant

-**What was Sarai's attitude toward Hagar?** She despised her, because of jealousy and pride

-The two women get mad at each other (jealousy and pride)

V5 – Sarai blamed the trouble on Abram

-**Where have we seen this before?** Eve and Adam

- Sarai wanted Abram to do something about Hagar (for her arrogance)

V6 – What did Abram do? “Sarai – you take care it” – “passing the buck”

-**What happened?** Sarai chased Hagar out of the family

Genesis 16.7-14

V7 – “Angel of Lord” found Hagar

-**Where?** On way to Shur [see map in any standard Bible dictionary]

-Hagar was on her way back to Egypt, her home (*verse 1*)

V8 – What question did the angel ask her? Where did you come from and where are you going?

-**Answer?** Fleeing from Sarai

V9 – Instructions from the angel? Return to Sarai and told to submit to Sarai

-**What New Testament book instructs slaves to return to their owners and obey them?**

Philemon

V10 – Promise in *verse 10*? Numerous descendants – too many to count

V11 – What was to be the name of her baby? Ishmael

V12 – Other prophecies about her son? Donkey of man (stubborn) - fighting type

-would live to the east

Note: The Arabs are the descendants of Ishmael
-tiresome to see news every night from Palestine
-Jews and Arabs will fight as long as the world stands

V 13 – Hagar’s response? Gratitude

-**What did she call God?** “God who sees” (compliment)
-she named the place after the experience
-God always comes for us and is aware of our needs

V 14-16 - Abram was 86 when Hagar gave birth

Lessons:

1. You don’t solve problems by running from them
2. You don’t solve problems by trying to get around the plans of God

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