

Growth Group Curriculum

SPRING SEMESTER 2023

The Gospel According to Abraham - Genesis 16:1-14; 21:14-21 "The God Who Sees Me"

For information on Growth Groups email info@cbclife.org

REVIEW

1. Was there anything from this past Sunday's message that challenged or confused you?
2. Can you think of one thing from Sunday's sermon that you are likely to remember two weeks from now?

MY STORY

1. Can you think of a time when you were tempted to "take matters into your own hands" due to God's apparent inaction?
 - a. What was the result?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read Genesis 16:1-4. See if your group can come up with a reason why Abram's decision makes sense?
 - a. Read Genesis 15:4. Is Abraham disobeying God's promise or violating any custom with his decision to acquiesce to Sarai's wishes?
2. Genesis 16:1-4a. What is wrong with Sarai's reasoning and motive?
 - a. What is wrong with Abram's response? (See Galatians 4:22-23, 28-29)
3. Read Genesis 16:4-6. How does the plan backfire?
 - a. How does Sarai respond?
 - b. How does Abram respond to Sarai's response?

- c. See if your group can innumerate the destructive effects of sin in this tragic family debacle.
4. How can we respond when someone asserts that the story of Abram and Sarai condones slavery, demeans women, and casts the “heroes” of the faith in such a poor light?
5. Read Genesis 16:7-12. What is the “good news” and “bad news” of the angel’s message to Hagar?
 - a. Why is it best for Hagar to return?
 - b. How do you respond when God asks you to do something difficult and even unfair?

TAKING IT HOME - Read Psalm 139

Consider:

*“Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”*

Pray: “Lord, you know me better than I know myself. All the motives of my heart are laid bare before you. Forgive my selfishness and show me anything in my character that is contrary to your will. Thank you for forgiving me. Thank you for loving me. Amen.”

Prayer Requests:

Important dates:

- May 14 - Mothers Day Celebration
- May 19 - Ladies Bunko Night 6pm
- May 29 - Jun 2 - Young Adult Rafting Trip
- June 11 - Spring Growth Groups conclude, New to Crossroads Lunch
- June 18 - Fathers Day Celebration
- June 27 - CORE Night
- September 17- Outreach Sunday