



## “When the Faithfull Fail”

9/15/24 Text: Genesis 16

### 1. When the Faithful Fail... (vs. 1-6).

[1] Now Sarai, Abram’s wife, had borne him no children. She had a female Egyptian servant whose name was Hagar. [2] And Sarai said to Abram, “Behold now, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children. Go in to my servant; it may be that I shall obtain children by her.” And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. [3] So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram’s wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife. [4] And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress. [5] And Sarai said to Abram, “May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my servant to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the LORD judge between you and me!” [6] But Abram said to Sarai, “Behold, your servant is in your power; do to her as you please.” Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her.

### 2. God Remains Faithful (vs. 7-15).

[7] The angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. [8] And he said, “Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?” She said, “I am fleeing from my mistress Sarai.” [9] The angel of the LORD said to her, “Return to your mistress and submit to her.” [10] The angel of the LORD also said to her, “I will surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude.” [11] And the angel of the LORD said to her,

“Behold, you are pregnant  
and shall bear a son.

You shall call his name Ishmael,  
because the LORD has listened to your affliction.  
[12] He shall be a wild donkey of a man,  
his hand against everyone  
and everyone’s hand against him,  
and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen.”

[13] So she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, “You are a God of seeing,” for she said, “Truly here I have seen him who looks after me.”  
[14] Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; it lies between Kadesh and Bered.

[15] And Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. [16] Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.

**If you were to share a key insight from today’s sermon with a friend, what would you say in a sentence or two?**

#### **Application Questions: Application/Discussion Questions:**

How does Sarai’s impatience & desire to control the fulfillment of God’s promise reflect our own tendencies when we are faced with delays in God’s promises? How can we learn to trust in God’s timing? In what ways do Abram’s passivity and failure to lead create problems in his family? How can this story challenge us to take responsibility and lead in faith, especially when faced with difficult decisions? How does this passage challenge our understanding of God’s care for the marginalized and oppressed? How can you apply the lessons of waiting, trusting in God’s promises, and receiving His mercy in your current situation, particularly when you are tempted to take matters into your own hands?

Text your questions, comments, prayer requests:  
(619) 797-6878

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 390698 San Diego, CA 92149  
☎ (619) 881-0100 ✉ hello@providencechurchsd.org  
providencechurchsd.org 📱 @providencechurchsd



Scan me