

Genesis Behind the Curtain: Abraham's Journey of Faith Episode 7: Are You Gonna Go My Way?

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Genesis 16:1-4

Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian slave named Hagar; 2 so she said to Abram, "The Lord has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my slave; perhaps I can build a family through her." Abram agreed to what Sarai said. 3 So after Abram had been living in Canaan ten years, Sarai his wife took her Egyptian slave Hagar and gave her to her husband to be his wife. 4 He slept with Hagar, and she conceived. When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress.

1. **God's Timing or Yours? - Genesis 16:3** - So after Abram had been living in Canaan ten years, Sarai his wife took her Egyptian slave Hagar and gave her to her husband to be his wife.
2. **God's Voice or Hers? - Genesis 16:2** - And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.
3. **God's Gospel or Yours? - Genesis 15:6** - So also Abram "believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."

Genesis 15:4-5; 7-12; 17-18

4 Then the word of the Lord came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir." 5 He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring[d] be."...

7 He also said to him, "I am the Lord, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it."

8 But Abram said, "Sovereign Lord, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?"

9 So the Lord said to him, "Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon."

10 Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half. 11 Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away....

12 As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him.....

17 When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking firepot with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces. 18 On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram and said, "To your descendants I give this land

Galatians 3:6-9

6 So also Abraham "believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." [a]

7 Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. 8 Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you." [b] 9 So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Small Group Questions:

1. When is the time in your life that you have not waited at God's timing and took actions into your own hands and there were consequences?
2. When was the time in your life that God gave you a word or some type of promise specifically to you and then you doubted and listened to other people's voice, and it changed the outcome of your life?
3. In Genesis 15 Abraham falls asleep, has a dream, and God symbolically walks through the cut pieces of the animal. Please read Genesis 15 and discuss what that passage means pertaining to the gospel of his son and our salvation.