

## ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD – ABRAHAM HAD FAITH (review) Genesis 11:29 & 12:4 & 15:5-6

11:29 Abraham's wife was named Sarah. 30 But Sarah was childless – she could not have children. 12:4 Abraham was 75 years old (and Sarah was 65) when he went to Canaan. 15:5 God took Abraham outside (at night) – and God said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars – if you can count them! Your descendants will be as many as the stars.”

6 Abraham believed God. So God decided: Abraham's faith is goodness – God looked at Abraham's faith, and God gave Abraham goodness.

This is Option #2:

Abraham believed God – God made Abraham good – and Abraham will live forever.

## BUT ABRAHAM DIDN'T WAIT FOR GOD'S PROMISE – HE & SARAH MADE THEIR OWN PLAN

Genesis 16:1-4

16:3 Abraham lived in Canaan for ten years, 16:1 but Sarah still had no children. But Sarah had a female slave – the slave's name was Hagar. 2 So Sarah said to Abraham, “God does not give me children. Maybe I can make a family through my slave – my slave will have children for me.”

Abraham listened to what Sarah said – he did what Sarah said. 3 Sarah gave her female slave Hagar to her husband. Hagar became Abraham's (second) wife. 4 Abraham slept with Hagar – and Hagar became pregnant.

(In old Middle Eastern culture, having no children was a very big problem – if the family had no children, the family had no heir. But the family must have an heir. So, sometimes, a female slave became a second wife. The slave wife had a lower position than the first wife. This was an old Middle Eastern custom.

Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible, John H. Walton & Craig S. Keener, Zondervan, pp 44-45)

## BAD RESULTS FROM ABRAHAM & SARAH'S PLAN

Genesis 16:4-16

4 Then Hagar knew that she was pregnant. So Hagar looked down on her master Sarah. 5 And Sarah said to Abraham, “It is your fault! I am very unhappy – and you are responsible. I put my female slave in your arms. And now she looks down on me – she looks down on me because she is pregnant.”

6 But Abraham said, “Look! Your female slave is in your hands. So do what you want with your slave.” Then Sarah treated Hagar very badly.

So Hagar ran away from Sarah. 7 Hagar ran into the desert – and Hagar stopped by a spring. The Angel of God found Hagar by the spring. 8 And the Angel of God said, “Hagar, female slave of

Sarah: **Where** did you **come from**? And where are you going?” Hagar **answered**, “I am running away from my master Sarah.”

9The Angel of God **told** Hagar, “**Go back** to your master. **Obey** your master.” 10Then the angel said, “I will give you **many**, many descendants – **no one** will be **able** to count your descendants.

11The Angel of God **also** said, “You are pregnant – and you will **have** a **son**. You must **name** him **Ishmael** (‘God **hears**’) – because God hears your **sadness** and **pain**.”

13And Hagar named God: ‘God **sees** me.’

15So Hagar’s **baby** was **born** – she had Abraham’s son. And Abraham named the baby Ishmael. 16Abraham was 86 years old when Ishmael was born.

## **WILL GOD **GIVE UP** ON ABRAHAM?**

**Genesis 17:1-2**

1When Abraham was 99 years old, God **appeared** to Abraham. God said, “I am **Most-Powerful-God**. Live for me – and **always** do what is **right**. 2And I will **make** my **promise** to you (**again**).

## CONTENT QUESTIONS

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What were Abraham and Sarah's 2 big problems? (Genesis 11:30 & 12:4)
- But what did God promise Abraham? (Genesis 15:5)
  - And what did Abraham do? (verse 6)
  - So what did God do for Abraham? (verse 6)
- But **after** 10 years, what was Abraham's **situation**? (Genesis 16:1 & 3)

Is 10 years a long time to wait?

Is it difficult to wait a long time but still believe God's promises?

How long should we wait for God's promises to come true?

- What was the name of Sarah's female slave? (verse 1)
- What plan did Sarah have? (verse 2)

How do you think Sarah felt about God's promise?

- What did Abraham think about Sarah's plan? (verse 2)

How do you think Abraham felt about God's promise?

- What did Sarah do? (verse 3)

What was the custom in Sarah's culture?

Did Sarah follow her culture? Or did Sarah wait for God's promise?

Is that a good idea?

- Then what did Abraham do? (verses 2-4)

Did Abraham follow Sarah's plan? Or did Abraham wait for God's promise?

Is that a good idea?

- What **happened** to Hagar? (verse 4)
- What happened to the **relationships between** Abraham, Sarah and Hagar? (verses 4-6)

After she became pregnant, how did Hagar think about her master Sarah? (verse 4)

Was Hagar right to look down on her master Sarah?

How did Sarah feel about her husband Abraham? (verse 5)

Was Sarah fair or unfair?

What did Abraham say to Sarah? (verse 6)

Was Abraham in a difficult situation with two wives?

Was it good for Abraham to say this? What do you think?

How did Sarah treat Hagar? (verse 6)

Did Hagar think that God would help her? What do you think?

(In verse 6) did Hagar think: God sees my trouble?

So what did Hagar do? (verse 6)

Do you think that Abraham was a good leader in this situation?

Was Abraham's family happier before this plan or happier after this plan?

Is it better to follow our own plans? Or is it better to obey God?

- Did God care about Hagar? (verses 7-11)

What did God do? (verses 7-9)

What did God promise Hagar? (verse 10-11)

- What was the name of Hagar's son? (verse 11)

What does Ishmael mean? (verse 11)

- What did Hagar name God? (verse 13)

Why did Hagar name God: 'God sees me'?

Sometimes we have great trouble and sadness – and we cry in our hearts.  
But how do we feel when we know that God hears us?

Sometimes we feel alone – we feel that no one sees our troubles.  
How do we feel when we know that God sees us?

How did Hagar's thinking about God change during this story?  
What did she learn about God?

Does God **only** care about **important** people?  
Or does God also care about **little** people? – about slaves?

- Did God give up on Abraham? (Genesis 17:1-2)

Did God say to Abraham:

You did not wait for my promise to come true – so I will **take away** your goodness?

Abraham and Sarah made a big **mistake**:

But did God still **love** them?

Does God still love his children when they make big mistakes?

**13When we are not faithful, God is still faithful – sometimes we do not believe and obey God, but God is still good to us – because God is God – God is love. 12But if we say: ‘God, I reject you’ – then God will reject us.**

2 Timothy 2:12-13

**25Jesus said, 28 I give eternal life to people who believe in me – and they will never be destroyed. No one can take them out of my hand – 29or out of God my Father’s hand.**

John 10:25-29

Did Abraham and Sarah reject God? Or did they **just** not follow God’s promise?

Next story we will **read** about what God did for Abraham and Sarah.

Abraham	アブラハム（イスラエルの父・信仰の父） （元の名前はアブラム）
believe	信じる
faith	信仰（信仰＝信じること・神様を信じるこ と）
wife	妻
Sarah	サラ（アブラハムの妻）
but	しかし
childless	子供がいない
could not	できなかった
when	その時、という時に、いつ
Canaan	カナン（地方）、（現代イスラエル辺り）
outside	外
night	夜
look	(わざと) 見る、～に見える
sky	空
count	数える
star	星
if	もし
can - could	できる
descendant	子孫
as many as	...と同数の...、それほどの数
so	だから、それで、それに従って、そのために は、そんなに
decide	決める
goodness	正しさ、良さ
give - gave - given	上げる、下さる、与える、差し上げる
option	選択、オプション
make - made - made	造る、作る、させる
good - better - best	良い・より良い・最も良い、正しい
live forever	永遠に生きる
wait	待つ
for	の間、のために

promise	約束する、約束
own [adjective]	自分自身の、自分の
plan	計画、計画を立てる
still	まだ、今でも
female	女性、女
slave	奴隷
Hagar	ハガル（アブラハムの第二の妻、サラの奴隷）
maybe	もしかしたら、もしかして
through	を通して
listen	耳を傾ける、(わざと) 聞く、（注目して）聞く、聞き入れる、聞き従う、に聞く
husband	夫
become - became - became	になる、なる
second	第二、二番目
sleep - slept - slept	眠る、(妻と) 寝る
with	一生に（いる）、一生に（やる）、（それ）で（やる）
pregnant – (become) pregnant	妊娠する、身ごもる
old	古い、前の
Middle East	中東
culture	文化
very	非常に
big	大きい
problem	問題
heir	跡継ぎ
must	しなければならない
sometimes	時々、ある時
low / lower / lowest	低い
position	可能
than	より
custom	習慣
bad	悪い

result	結果
from	から
then	そして、その場合、その時、そしたら
know - knew - known	知る
look down on	軽んじる
master	主人
your	あなたの
fault	(あなたの) せい
unhappy	不幸嬉しい、悲しい
responsible	責任
put - put - put	付ける、置く、入れる
arm	腕
because	～のため、～のせい、なぜなら
look!	ほら
hand	手
want	欲しい、欲しがる、望む、求める、やりたい
treat	取り扱う、扱う
badly	酷く、悪く、非常に
run away - ran away - run away	逃げる
run - ran - run	走る
desert	砂漠、荒野
stop	やめる、止まる、止まれ、止める
by	そば、そばに
spring	泉
Angel of God	神様の天使 (神様ご自身の現れだと考えられる)
find - found - found	見つける
where	どこ
come from - came from - come from	～から発する、から来る
answer	答える、答え
tell - told - told	命じる、教える、伝える、戒める、話をする、見分ける、区別がつく



go back - went back - gone back	戻る
obey	従う
many	多くの、大勢の
no one	誰一人いない、誰も～ない、ひとりも～ない
able	できる
also	また、も、それに
have a son	(息子)を 生む
name	名付ける
Ishmael	イシュマエル (アブラハムとハガルの息子)
hear - heard - heard [pronunciation = heer - hrd - hrd]	聞く、聞こえる
sadness	悲しみ
pain	苦しみ、痛み
see - saw - seen	見る、分かる
baby	赤ちゃん
born	生まれる
give up - gave up - given up	諦める
appear	現れる
Most-Powerful-God	全能の神様
always	いつも
right	正しい、正しいこと、ちょうどいい
make a promise	約束する
again	また、もう一度
_____	
after	の後、ののち
situation	状況、事態、状態
long time	長い間
difficult	難しい
how long	どのくらい (の長さ・の時間)
should	するべき、起こるべき
come true	実現する

how	どう、どのくらい
think - thought - thought	思う、考える
feel - felt - felt	感じる
about	について、約
follow	従う、後をついていく
idea	考え、意見
happen	起こる
relationship	関係、（人間）関係
between	の間、間
fair	公平
unfair	不公平、不公平な
say - said - said	言う、話す
trouble	問題、迷惑、面倒、苦労、悩み、困難、患 い、困る、困らせる
leader	指導者、リーダー
happy / happier / happiest	嬉しい・より嬉しい・最も嬉しい、喜ぶ、幸 せだ
before	前、以前、の前
better (good / better / best)	より良い
our own	自分たちの
care about	気を使う、心配してくれる、気にする、構 う、大切に思う
mean	意味する
great / greater / greatest	偉大・より偉大・最も偉大、素晴らしい・よ り素晴らしい・最も素晴らしい
alone	孤独、一人ぼっち、ひとりでいる
change	変わる、変える
during	間中、ながら
learn	学ぶ、習う、ならう、知る
only	だけ、のみ、ただ、ひとりの、ただ一人の、 ただ一つの
important	大切、重要な、大事な、重大、優れる、えら い（人）
little	小さい、少ない
take away - took away - taken away	取り除く、奪う

mistake	間違い
love	愛する、愛
faithful / faithfulness	忠実
reject	断る、拒む、退ける
eternal life	永遠の命
never	決して、一度も～ない
destroy	滅ぼす
take out - took out - taken out	取り出す
just	ちょうど、ぴったり、ただ、だけ、ジャスト
next	次
story	話
read - read - read	読む