

Week 17: Genesis 16

1. What patterns did you notice in Sarai's thinking? (vs. 1-5)

2. What did Abram's responses to these matters reveal about him? (vs. 2-6)

3. How was Hagar abused in this story, and how did she respond? (vs. 3-6)

4. By way of contrast, how did God treat Hagar, and how did she respond? (7-16)

5. What principles can you learn from this story to apply to your own relationships—especially what not to do?

“Abraham had accepted without question the promise of a son, but he did not wait for God to fulfill His word in His own time and way. A delay was permitted, to test his faith in the power of God; but he failed to endure the trial. . . Polygamy had become so widespread that it had ceased to be regarded as a sin, but it was no less a violation of the law of God, and was fatal to the sacredness and peace of the family relation. Abraham's marriage with Hagar resulted in evil, not only to his own household, but to future generations.”

Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 145.1