

Focus Verse

“At that time Abimelek and Phicol the commander of his forces said to Abraham, ‘God is with you in everything you do.’ ” – Genesis 21:22

FIRST DAY: Read the notes and the references.

1. Use this space to record how you have seen God’s activity during the week. (How has He provided, answered, comforted, reconciled, guided, etc.?)

2. What from last week’s passage, lecture, notes or discussion affected your thinking or responses to events?

SECOND DAY: Read Genesis 20

Abraham and Sarah deceived Abimelek, but God protected them all.

3. a. When and under what circumstances did Abraham and Sarah commit the same sin? (See Genesis 12:10-20.)

b. How can you identify with Abraham?

c. What sinful acts are in danger of becoming sinful patterns in your life?

4. How did God work through the situation?

5. In what situation is God asking you to trust Him instead of engineering your own solutions?

THIRD DAY: Read Genesis 21:1-13.

Isaac’s birth results in conflict with Hagar’s son Ishmael. Note: Ishmael was born to Hagar, Sarah’s Egyptian slave, 13 years before Isaac was born to Sarah.

6. What words or phrases reveal God’s faithfulness and power?

7. Give reasons God told Abraham to send away Hagar and Ishmael. (See also Galatians 4:22-31.)

8. How did God encourage faith in Abraham and guide him to pursue peace among the people involved?

FOURTH DAY: Read Genesis 21:14-21.

Abraham sent Hagar and Ishmael away under God's protection.

9. How did God care for Hagar and Ishmael?
10. How do God's responses to Hagar and Ishmael help you think differently about God's grace?
11. How is God's concern to bless Ishmael for Abraham's sake reflected in your attitudes, actions or prayers regarding Abraham's descendants today?

FIFTH DAY: Read Genesis 21:22-34.

Abraham made a peace treaty and stayed in Beersheba.

12. a. How did Abimelek and Phicol recognize God's presence with Abraham?
- b. How do their words to Abraham encourage or challenge you?
13. In what ways did Abraham honor God in this situation?
14. What can you do this week to honor God, seek peace and show others you can be trusted?

SIXTH DAY: Review Genesis 20-21.

15. Use phrases found in these chapters to write a prayer to God. How will you worship His character, confess your sins, seek forgiveness and ask for wisdom and provisions only He can supply to grow your faith in Him?
16. Homiletics for group and administrative leaders: Genesis 20-21

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