

GOD SEES YOU

Genesis 16:1-15 | Ryan Pfeiffer | July 27, 2025

The Abram story begins with a choice:

- The path of Babel. The Self-made life. Confusion.
- The path of Blessing. God-made life. Promise.

FOCUS. We'll look at Genesis 16 in two parts. Part 1 Sarai's attempt to bless her self. Part 2 God's intervention to restore His blessing.

PART 1: THE PATH OF BABEL. READ GENESIS 16:1-6.

There are two key things pressurizing Sarai's faith...

1. V1 Sarai's barrenness.
2. V3 it's been 10 years since they've been in Canaan ...

This pressure exposes Sarai's core belief about God... v2 "The LORD has kept me from having children." Rather than... God has promised me... blesses me... God speaks to me!

FALSE CORE BELIEF— The LORD is the God who keeps things from me.

- When God's plan makes us wait longer than expected.
- When following God results in suffering
- When God's Word challenges our conventional thinking.
- When God's Spirit convicts us of our sin.

FALSE CORE BELIEFS about God/ ourselves lead to CONFUSION.

- v3 she gave her to her husband to be his wife... COMPLICATED.
- V4 Hagar began to despise her mistress... CONFLICT.
- V6 Then Sarai mistreated Hagar; so she fled from her. CONFUSION.

The problem is that NO ONE seeks God... she doesn't do this out of faith rather out of fear... v2 "perhaps I can build a family through her". (Gen11:4)

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

We're not called to be PASSIVE/ ignore COMMON SENSE... Called to TRUST!

PART 2: THE PATH OF BLESSING. READ GENESIS 16:7-15.

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The Core Truth is You are the God who sees me. In the Hebrew El Roi.

What does that mean that God sees us?

7 The angel of the LORD found Hagar near a spring in the desert... In 4 Woman/Well!

1) God is always the one searching for us

Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

2) God hears our pain and sees our suffering. V11 You shall name him Ishmael, for the Lord has heard of your misery.

1. Psalm 34:17 The Lord hears his people when they call to him for help.

2. Psalm 34:18 The LORD is close to the brokenhearted...

There is something powerful about affirming out loud these Core Truths:

1. God you see me. 2) God you hear me. 3) God you are with me.

Repenting and Submitting is always the way Back to Faith in God's Blessing.

9 Then the angel of the Lord told her, "Go back to your mistress and submit to her.

1. "Go back" ... repent... you're running from your problems.

2. "Submit" to God in the midst of difficult moments is where our faith gets stronger.

Hebrews 12:7 Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children... How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness.... v11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Submitting to God in our hardship allows our faith to get bigger...

Spirit of Submission says:

- God you're working in my pain.
- God you're greater than my hardship.
- God you're better than my worst.