

**ROOTS**  
*A Study in Genesis*



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**LESSON 12 GENESIS 16-17**

1. What verse, truth or insight from **Genesis 15** enlarged your understanding and/or love of God, and what difference did that make in your thoughts or prayers this week?
2. As you read **Genesis 16-17**, ask God in prayer for wisdom and increased confidence in Him for your place of waiting.
3. Read **Genesis 16:1-6**. When has your desire for a good thing outweighed waiting on God's plan to be fulfilled in His way and time? What were the results for yourself or someone you love?
4. Read **V4-6**. What are some of the attitudes and actions displayed by Sarai and Hagar? To which can you most relate? Why?
5. Who do you think "The angel of the Lord" is in **V7-12** (see **Genesis 21:17, 22:15-16** and **Judges 13:21-22**), and what do you notice about what he says and does?
6. How did the encounter with "The angel of the Lord" change Hagar in **V13-15**? Have you ever had a similar encounter with God, being changed by experiencing His presence? Explain.
7. The name Ishmael means "God has heard," and Hagar named the Lord "the God who sees me." How does the fact that God hears and sees you, encourage you? Be specific.

8. Thirteen years passed between the time of **Genesis 16** and **Genesis 17**. As you read **17:1-8**, think back to previous chapters. What are the specific promises God confirms and promises on which He expands?
9. a) According to **V9-14** how did God tell Abraham to keep his part of the covenant to demonstrate faith in God's promises and everlasting covenant?
- b) What more do you learn about circumcision as a sign and seal from **Romans 4:11**, and how does that connect us with Abraham (see also **Genesis 15:6**)?
10. Four new names are mentioned in **Chapter 17**. What are they (**V1, 5, 15, 19**)? Given that names in the Bible point to the character of God or symbolize the transformation of a person's character, in your opinion, what is the significance of each of these new names?
11. Against all odds, and despite Abraham's and Sarah's sin and doubts, God remains faithful to His promise of blessing. List some attributes of God displayed through **V15-21**?
12. In **V19-21** God clearly established His covenant through Isaac, not Ishmael. Although Abraham is concerned for Ishmael, in **V 23-27** he immediately obeys God's command for circumcision. What do you learn about the spiritual aspect of circumcision from:
- **Deuteronomy 30:6**
  
  - **Romans 2:29**
  
  - **Romans 9:6-8**



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**PRAYER REQUEST**