

Text: Genesis 16:1-16
Topics: Faith, Plans, Promises, Patience
Series: Genesis: The Beginning of His-tory

Monroe Bible Church
Aug 22, 2021
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I Can Fix This!

I. A Shortcut Taken (1-6)

Wait for God to give His promise, lest the world's way give you problems you don't want!

II. An Intervention (7-12)

God hears the cries of His afflicted and will bring about justice, but they must trust Him.

III. A Long-term Result (13-16)

God's intervention could result in blessing for another and a nemesis for us!

God knows your circumstances, so trust Him, and wait for Him, He will fulfill His promises!

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group for even more benefit.*

1. Can you think of an example of a human plan to get something God promised, that ended in painful results? Explain.

2. Read Genesis 16:1-6. From verses 1-3, what did Sarai want Abram to do for her? Why?

What did Abram do? Was this ok, or wrong? Explain.

Verses 4-6 show that the plan blew up. What wrong did each contribute? What wrong thinking might be behind each action?

Do you have an example in your own life of any of these wrong ways of thinking, which lead to human solutions? What were the results?

What helps you the most to not fall into this kind of thinking?

3. The angel of the Lord gave Hagar instruction and prophecy in Genesis 16:7-12. What difficult thing would she need to do? Why would it be hard?

What in the prophecy would encourage her and what might concern her?

Can you point to a time when you were in a difficult situation and God's instructions were to do something even more difficult? What happened?

4. Read Genesis 16:13-16. What all has Hagar learned about God?

How might this have helped her do what God told her to do?

What will this account mean for the Israelite people who look to Abraham as the father of their faith?

5. What is the hardest thing for you to wait on God for right now? How can what you learned from this passage help?