

Genesis 16.1-4a
(NIV)

- (1) Now Sarai, Abram’s wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian slave named Hagar;
- (2) so she said to Abram, “The Lord has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my slave; perhaps I can build a family through her.” Abram agreed to what Sarai said.
- (3) So after Abram had been living in Canaan ten years, Sarai his wife took her Egyptian slave Hagar and gave her to her husband to be his wife.
- (4a) He slept with Hagar, and she conceived.

WORD OF WEALTH: the Hebrew word: **בָּנָה** *banah* - a primitive root; to build (literally and figuratively):—(begin to) build(-er), obtain children, make, repair, set (up)

Genesis 11.4—Then they said, “Come, let us *build* ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth.” (NIV, *emphasis added*)

Genesis 16.4b-6
(NIV)

- (4b) When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress.
- (5) Then Sarai said to Abram, “You are responsible for the wrong I am suffering. I put my slave in your arms, and now that she knows she is pregnant, she despises me. May the Lord judge between you and me.”
- (6) “Your slave is in your hands,” Abram said. “Do with her whatever you think best.” Then Sarai mistreated Hagar; so she fled from her.

Genesis 15.13—Then the Lord said to him, “Know for certain that for four hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own and that they will be enslaved and *mistreated* there. (NIV, *emphasis added*)

Genesis 16.7-9
(NIV)

- (7) The angel of the Lord found Hagar near a spring in the desert; it was the spring that is beside the road to Shur.
- (8) And he said, “Hagar, slave of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going?”
“I’m running away from my mistress Sarai,” she answered.
- (9) Then the angel of the Lord told her, “Go back to your mistress and submit to her.”

TIMELESS TRUTH: God is a God that pursues.

APPLICATION: When things get tough, don’t run from God’s plan and promises, rather submit to them and trust God to fulfill them.

Genesis 16.10-12
(NIV)

- (10) The angel added, “I will increase your descendants so much that they will be too numerous to count.”
- (11) The angel of the Lord also said to her:
“You are now pregnant
and you will give birth to a son.
You shall name him Ishmael,
for the Lord has heard of your misery.
- (12) He will be a wild donkey of a man;
his hand will be against everyone
and everyone’s hand against him,
and he will live in hostility
toward all his brothers.”

NOTE OF CLARIFICATION: Ishmael is **a** seed of Abram not **the** seed of God's promise.

Genesis 13.16—And I will give you so many descendants that, like the dust of the earth, they cannot be counted! (NLT)

Genesis 15.5—Then the lord took Abram outside and said to him, “Look up into the sky and count the stars if you can. That’s how many descendants you will have!” (NLT)

Genesis 16.13-16
(NIV)

- (13) She gave this name to the Lord who spoke to her: “You are the God who sees me,” for she said, “I have now seen the One who sees me.”
- (14) That is why the well was called Beer Lahai Roi; it is still there, between Kadesh and Bered.
- (15) So Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram gave the name Ishmael to the son she had borne.
- (16) Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore him Ishmael.