**Genesis Chapters 16 – 20**

**Last Session we began to look at the life of Abraham.**

* Chapter 12 The Call of Abraham
* Chapter 13 Separation from Lot
* Chapter 14 The Battle of the Nine Kings
* Chapter 15 The Abrahamic Covenant

**This Session we will finish the life of Abraham.**

* Chapter 16 Hagar the Egyptian Handmaid for Sarah
* Chapter 17 Circumcision and Names Changed from Abram to Abraham: Sari to Sarah
* Chapter 18 Oaks of Mamre
* Chapter 19 Sodom and Gomorrah
* Chapter 20 The Lapse at Gerar

**Chapter 16**

*Key Point –*

*Trying to help God fulfill His promises with human wisdom and effort is a lack of faith.*

VS 1 – 6

* Sari suggests Hagar become the surrogate mother to provide Abram an heir.
* Genesis 15:4 God promised Abram he would have an heir.
* Sari’s plan had some logic to it, but Sari did not have the faith to believe God’s promise.
* Abram (like Adam) listened to the advice of his wife.
* Barren women in Scripture
  + Manoah – mother of Samuel
  + Elizabeth – mother of John the Baptist
  + Rachel – Jacobs first love
* Hagar conception upset Sari.
* Sari acknowledged her mistake and treated Hagar harshly and Hagar fled away.

VS 7 -11

* Hagar is on the way to Egypt.
* She encounters the “angel of the lord.”
* She is instructed to go back to Sari and Abram
* The child is to be named Ishamel (God will hear).

VS 12 -16

* Hagar gives birth and the child is named Ishamel.
* Abraham is 86 years old.
* Ishamel
  + A wild donkey man
  + Against everyone
  + Everyone will be against him.

Flesh vs. Spirit Ishmael vs Isaac

Galatians 4:22-31 explains this from God’s perspective.

**Chapter 17**

* Abram is 99 years old.
* God affirms the promise of an heir and reaffirms the covenant.
* Circumcision is instituted as the sign of the covenant.
* Notice Abraham immediately obeyed God’s commandment to circumcise.
* The 8th day – Vitamin K -which enables blood to clot – forms on the 5th-7th day.
* God adds the Hebrew letter “heh” in the middle of their name. Means “spirit.”
* Both Abraham and Sarah laugh at the ridiculousness of God’s promise.
* Isaac would be born one year later.
* Ishamel to become a great nation with 12 princes\

**Genesis 18**

The Three Visitors – The Lord and two angels.

* Abraham hurried to provide extravagant hospitality -fresh bread, fresh meat, curds, and milk.
* Abraham bows low before them.
* Abraham washes their feet.
* Abraham stood while they ate.

The Conversation

* Sarah shall have a son next year.
* Sarah was beyond the “manner of women” menopause.
* Abraham was 100 years old, Sarah 90
* Sarah laughs inwardly.
* VS 14 – Is anything too difficult for the Lord? (Luke 1:37)

Abrahams Intercession for Sodom and Gomorrah

* God shares with Abraham His intentions.
* Why did Abraham stop with 10 righteous?
* The sin of Sodom and Gomorrah – Jude 7 and 8
* VS 23 – will you destroy the righteous with the wicked?
* 2 Peter 2 6-9 – God knows how to protect the righteous

**Chapter 19**

* Two Angels arrive and find Lot to save him from the judgment to come.
* The angels stay in Lot’s house.
* The men of the city want Lot to surrender the angels so they can indulge in sexual immorality.
* Lot offers his daughters.
* The men demand the angels – they are blinded.
* The angels tell Lot to gather his family and leave.
* The sons-in-law refuse to go.
* The angels physically remove Lot, his wife and two daughters.
* They flee to Zoar.
* They end up in a cave.
* The daughters get pregnant by the father – Moab and Ammon are born.

**Chapter 20**

* Abraham repeats the same ploy he used earlier with Pharaoh in chapter 12.
* Abimelech takes Sarah but God prevents him from touching her.
* Abraham is given sheep, oxen, servants and 1000 pieces of silver.
* Abimelech offers Abraham his choice of land to dwell.
* Abraham prays for Abimelech and God heals his people of barrenness.