

#5 – Running Ahead of God

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**Genesis 16**

**Unresolved Situation**

Genesis 16:1

*Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children.*

**Running Ahead of God**

*Genesis 16:1b-4a*

*She had a female Egyptian servant whose name was Hagar.****2****And Sarai said to Abram, “Behold now, the Lord has prevented me from bearing children. Go in to my servant; it may be that I shall obtain childrenby her.” And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.****3****So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife.****4****And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived.*

*“Abram listened to the voice of Sarai”*

*“Sin comes when we take a perfectly natural desire or longing or ambition and try desperately to fulfill it without God.”* Augustine

**Painful Consequences**

*Genesis 16:4b-6*

*And when she (Sarai) saw that she (Hagar) had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress.****5****And Sarai said to Abram, “May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my servant to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the Lord judge between you and me!”****6****But Abram said to Sarai, “Behold, your servant is in your power; do to her as you please.” Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her.*

***God finds Hagar***

***God calls Hagar by name***

***God promises to bless Hagar***

*Genesis 16:7-16*

***7****The angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur.****8****And he said, “Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?” She said, “I am fleeing from my mistress Sarai.”****9****The angel of the Lord said to her, “Return to your mistress and submit to her.”* ***10****The angel of the Lord also said to her, “I will surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude.”****11****And the angel of the Lord said to her,*

*“Behold, you are pregnant  
    and shall bear a son.  
You shall call his name Ishmael,(God hears)   
    because the Lord has listened to your affliction.****12****He shall be a wild donkey of a man,  
    his hand against everyone  
    and everyone's hand against him,  
and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen.”*

***13****So she called the name of the Lord who spoke to her, “You are a God of seeing,” for she said, “Truly here I have seen him who looks after me.”****14****Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi;(the well of the Living One who sees me) it lies between Kadesh and Bered.*

***15****And Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael.****16****Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.*

***God finds Hagar***

***God calls Hagar by name***

***God promises to bless Hagar***