



Hagar had a tough life. At times she felt totally alone, on her own and that no one cared about her. As we study Hagar's story we find out that she was never alone at all. God saw her, saw everything she was going through and He cared immensely. Again, as in all study of the Bible, the blessings come as you look for God at work behind the scenes. Hagar's story is found in Genesis 16 and 21.

1. Read Genesis 16. Write down everything you learn about Hagar from this chapter. What nationality was she, what was her occupation etc.
2. What personal rights did someone like Hagar possess? What do you think she thought her sole purpose in life was? What hope did she have?
3. You could say that Hagar succeeded where Sarah failed. Describe some of the thoughts and emotions Hagar may have experienced about this "success". What do you think her behavior toward Sarah looked like?
4. What was the outcome of Hagar's behavior? What did she do in response to the outcome?





5. Historically, the church has held that the Old Testament appearances of the Angel of the Lord were actually pre-incarnate appearances of Christ. From this passage why do you think the church would hold to this belief?

6. What an awesome scene Genesis 16:7-14 is of personal one-on-one communication between God and a human being. What is your favorite part about this scene?

7. List everything you learn about God from His visit with Hagar? What hope did she gain from this encounter?

8. It seems that after Hagar returned to Sarah her behavior had changed. Describe the new behavior. How does this encourage you?

9. Read Genesis 16:15-16 and 21:1-7. How old was Abraham when Ishmael was born? ____ How old was Abraham when Isaac was born? ____ What is the age difference between Abraham's sons. _____





10. According to the calculations above it has been approximately 15 –17 years after Hagar's first encounter with God in the wilderness. Read Genesis 21:8-20. What is different this time?

11. What did you learn about God from the study of Hagar's life?

12. What personal applications can you make to your own life from your study of Hagar?

It almost seems that a life like Hagar's is hopeless. God came to Hagar, told her that He "saw" her, and this gives us hope that no life is hopeless. No matter where we are, no matter what we've done or has been done to us, God sees. He is the one who comes to us and forever changes our life. He sees.

Next we study Rebekah, the wife of Abraham and Sarah's son, Isaac.

In the meantime, commit this verse to memory:

For it is by grace you have been saved through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8

