

SERMON: Trusting the God Who Sees and Hears

March 10, 2019

SERIES: Genesis: A Journey of Faith

SPEAKER: Pastor Mark

CONNECT (5-10 minutes): Help the members of the group grow in relationships with one another so all people in the group know they matter. Spend some time discovering what is happening in the lives of your group members. Share how God has been revealing himself in each other's lives.

REVIEW (15-20 minutes): Use this time to review the passage and the sermon outline (see below).

Note: this is a great opportunity to share leadership.

Use these simple questions to review the sermon/passage or for if you don't have much time:

1. What does this passage teach you about God? About us?
2. How does this passage point us to the gospel? How does it challenge you? Change you?

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 16:1-16

SERMON OUTLINE:

- I. The Struggle of Waiting
- II. Our Seeing and Hearing God

GROW (45-60 minutes): Use this time to go deeper with your group. Use these questions to discuss the sermon/passage:

1. Who in this story can you relate to the most? Why?
2. Have you ever had to wait for something that you thought God had promised to you, or just waited for any kind of answer from God? In what ways were you tempted to take matters into your own hands?
3. What promises has God made to us in the New Covenant that we are still waiting for? How are you trusting God in this waiting? OR...Is there something that you are waiting on God for that he hasn't actually promised you? How can you trust in Jesus to meet that need/desire for you?
4. Hagar named God *El Roi*, "the God who hears." What name would you give to God today? "God Is the God Who _____."
5. How is God the hero of this story? How does this story from Genesis picture the gospel? Think about:
 - Our sin
 - God's pursuit
 - God's grace
 - The mediation of the Angel of the Lord (Jesus)
 - Our confession
6. What does the story of Hagar reveal to us about God's love and respect for women?
 - Men: what lessons can we learn from this story?
 - Women: what encouragement can we take from this story?

Pray: Praise God for his loving pursuit of us and his perfect timing in all things. Confess ways that you have taken life into your hands. Ask God to help you trust that he sees and hears you, and to trust his timing.