Abraham: JOURNEY OF FAITH

Daily Devotions Feb. 11-15 God's Love for All | Genesis 16 and 21:8-21

Feb. 11 Read Genesis 16:1-6

God had promised Abraham that he would provide Abraham with an heir to live in the land that God would show Abraham. But he was old, his wife Sarah was barren and he had lived in this land for a decade now. Hagar was a culturally acceptable solution that Abraham and Sarah arrived at. When have you lost trust in God and come up with your own plan or creative solution? When have you persevered through doubts and experienced God's timing?

Feb. 12 Read Galatians 4:23

How much faith did Abraham need to have a son with Hagar? How much faith did Abraham need to have a son with Sarah? Contrast the word "ordinary" with "supernatural" or "way of the promise".

Feb. 13 Read Genesis 16:7-10

With attitude conflicts now arising from pregnant Hagar, and harsh responses from Sarah. Hagar runs instead of adjusting her attitude. How does God graciously meet her? What is her course correction? What is her comfort? When do you remember receiving both correction and grace from God's word in a difficult time?

Feb. 14 Read Genesis 16:11-14

Hagar has a time of worship in her response to this messenger from God. At this time of great distress, he was there. What does her name for God and the name for the well reveal about her greatest "ah ha" moment? When have you had that "ah ha" moment, recognizing God's presence was all you needed?

Feb. 15 Read Genesis 16:15 & Genesis 21:8-20 Galatians 4:29

Isaac was born...in just the right time. That wasn't Abraham and Sarah's timing, it was God's never changing timing. Now the failure to rely on God's grace, the failure to rest in his promise, the act of becoming their own God, results in havoc and disintegration. Ishmael persecutes Isaac. Abraham is reassured by God that sending Ishmael away with Hagar is for the best. Hagar is seemingly on her own. How is God the only hero in this story? What does that mean to you today?