

When Your Shortcut Leads To A DEADEND

Genesis 16

Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. 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 children^[a] by 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. And when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress.^[b] 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.

Genesis 16:1-6

Have you ever turned to the world instead of turning to the Lord?

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,^[a] 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,"^[b] for she said, "Truly here I have seen him who looks after me."^[c]¹⁴ Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi,^[d] 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.

Genesis 16:7-16

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for^[a] you. Do this in remembrance of me."^[b] ²⁵ In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

I Corinthians 11:23-26