

Read Genesis 21

What stood out to you? What challenged or confused you?

How do these statements fit into the story of Abraham and Sarah and how do they fit into the story of your life?

- o You can trust God's faithfulness. He keeps his word.
- You can trust God's power. He can perform the miraculous.
- You can trust God's sovereignty. His ways are always right and timely.
- You can trust God's compassion. He has a special love for the hurting, broken, and alone.
- You can trust God's watch-care. He will protect and provide.

Why do you think God compelled Abraham to listen to Sarah's order to send Ishmael away rather than insisting he stay?

Faith, patience and perseverance is what it takes to inherit a promise.

Read Hebrews 6:12, 10:35-36

In what areas of your life is God currently requiring faith, patience and perseverance?

In what ways was the birth of Isaac like the birth of Jesus?

In what way did Ishmael's welfare and future depend on his response to Isaac? In what way does your welfare and future depend on your response to Jesus?

The first and second half of Genesis 21 are tied together by the theme of God keeping his promises. The first part focuses on the child of promise while the second focuses on the land of promise.

What promises has God fulfilled in your life?

How does your study of this passage impact your life?