

ABRAHAM'S FAITH

FRIEND OF GOD

Is God Really There?

Genesis 21:14-34

Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she **departed** and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba.

Genesis 21:14

I. Extraordinary walks with God

A. Where is God in our hardship?

***When people you trust are gone**

But what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the slave woman and her son...
Galatians 4:30

When the water in the skin was **gone**...

Genesis 21:15

I. Extraordinary walks with God

A. Where is God in our hardship?

- *When people you trust are gone**
- *When provision you need is gone**

...she put the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot, for she said, “Let me not look on the **death** of the child.”

Genesis 21:15b-16a

I. Extraordinary walks with God

A. Where is God in our hardship?

- *When people you trust are gone**
- *When provision you need is gone**
- *When peril is close at hand**

I. Extraordinary walks with God

A. Where is God in our hardship?

B. He is a prayer away

And as she sat opposite him, she **lifted up her voice** and wept.

Genesis 21:16b

And **God heard** the voice of the **boy**, and the angel of God **called to Hagar** from heaven and said to her, “What troubles you, Hagar? Fear not, for God has **heard the voice of the boy** where he is.

Genesis 21:17

I. Extraordinary walks with God

B. He is a prayer away

***Prayers of others = effective**

First of all, then, I urge that **supplications**, prayers, **intercessions**, and thanksgivings be made for all people,

1 Timothy 2:1

Up! **Lift up** the boy, and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make him into a great nation.”

Genesis 21:18

I. Extraordinary walks with God

B. He is a prayer away

***Prayers of others = effective**

***Promises of God = empower**

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask
God, who gives generously to all without finding
fault, and it will be given to you.

James 1:5

Then God opened her eyes, and **she saw a well** of water. And she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink.

Genesis 21:19

I. Extraordinary walks with God

B. He is a prayer away

- *Prayers of others = effective**
- *Promises of God = definite**
- *Provision from God = easy**

Then God **opened her eyes**, and she saw a well of water. And she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink.

Genesis 21:19

And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see.” Then the Lord **opened** the servant’s eyes, and he looked and **saw** the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

2 Kings 6:17-20

And God was **with** the boy, and he grew up. He lived in the wilderness and became an expert with the bow.

Genesis 21:20

I. Extraordinary walks with God

B. He is a prayer away

- *Prayers of others = effective**
- *Promises of God = definite**
- *Provision from God = easy**
- *Presence of God = always**

He lived in the wilderness of Paran, and his **mother** took a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Genesis 21:21

I. Extraordinary walks with God

B. He is a prayer away

- *Prayers of others = effective**
- *Promises of God = definite**
- *Provision from God = easy**
- *Presence of God = always**
- *Parental guidance = desired**

And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Deuteronomy 6:6-7

“As you think about Abraham’s life, you realize that he was a fairly ordinary man...His life wasn’t made up of one spectacular event after another. Most days, he got up, made sure his animals were being cared for, dealt with problems like sick or straying animals, servants who had squabbles, and finding enough water and food for his flocks and family. The one great miracle in his life was the birth of Isaac in his old age. But other than that, Abraham’s life was fairly routine. And yet he was used in God’s great purpose of blessing the nations through Abraham’s seed, the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Steven J. Cole

II. Ordinary walks with God

At that time Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army said to Abraham, "God is with you in all that you do. Now therefore swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my descendants or with my posterity, but as I have dealt kindly with you, so you will deal with me and with the land where you have sojourned." And Abraham said, "I will swear."

Genesis 21:22-24

II. Ordinary walks with God

A. Walk with protection of God

When Abraham reproved Abimelech about a well of water that Abimelech's servants had seized... and the two men made a covenant... Therefore that place was called Beersheba, because there both of them swore an oath. So they made a covenant at Beersheba.

Genesis 21:25-32

II. Ordinary walks with God

A. Walk with protection of God

B. Walk with provision from God

The covenant the two men ratified stipulated that the well belonged to Abraham (21:30). In that desert land, a well was essential for survival, both for a man's flocks and for his family.

Then Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army rose up and returned to the land of the Philistines. Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba and called there on the name of the Lord, the Everlasting God. And Abraham sojourned many days in the land of the Philistines.

Genesis 21:33-34

II. Ordinary walks with God

A. Walk with protection of God

B. Walk with provision from God

C. Walk with the purpose of God

Called Into Faith

Faith builds over a lifetime, but is birthed in a moment.