

Bible Study Questions

Genesis: The Story Begins – The Lord Who Hears and Sees

Focus

The Lord hears us and sees us in our sin, neediness, and brokenness. We should hope in Him and cry out to Him.

Read

[Genesis 16](#)

As you study this passage on your own or with a small group of others, here are some questions for study, reflection, and application.

Questions for Review

(The purpose of these opening questions is to review the passage that was recently preached on in order to make sure that everyone understands the basic structure, events, people, and point of the passage.)

1. Work through some basic review questions for this passage:
 - What's the context? (Where are we in Genesis; the Pentateuch; the Old Testament; and the Bible as a whole?)
 - Who are the main characters in this section?
 - Is time or place significant in the events that happen in the passage?
 - Is there a conflict or high point in this passage? (What is the structure of this passage that builds to that point?)
 - What was the main point or theme of this passage that was identified in Sunday's sermon?
 - What surprises are there in this passage?
2. What questions do you still have about this passage that you'd like to discuss?

Questions for Reflection and Application

(The purpose of these reflection questions is to help each other not just understand what the passage is saying, but to think more deeply about what it means so that we can then accurately apply it to our lives today.)

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1. What's the situation like for Abram and Sarai at the beginning of this chapter?
2. How does Sarai's plan reveal that she's no longer waiting on and hoping in God to fulfill His promises?
3. Where in your life right now are you tempted to take matters into your own hands instead of waiting for God to act according to His Word?
4. How could Abram have better served and lead Sarai in this moment?
5. If you're a husband, in what ways are you tending to your own personal discipleship so that you can faithfully lead your wife and family?
6. Reflect on the Lord's interactions with Hagar. What do they teach you about the Lord?
7. Do you see any ways this passage might point us to Jesus and the Lord's pursuit of us in Jesus?
8. How can you remind yourself – and how can we help remind each other – that the Lord hears us and sees us?
9. How else can your brothers and sisters in Christ help you to not grow anxious and fearful as you wait, but to truly call on and trust in the Lord?

Ongoing questions to ask of any passage:

1. How does the gospel inform your understanding and application of this passage?

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2. Has studying this passage in any way challenged your understanding about who God is and what He's like? If so, how so?

3. In light of studying this passage, is there any behavior or attitude that you need to personally address in your life? If so, how specifically will you address it?

4. How does this passage help you to love, trust, and worship Jesus more fully?