

Genesis Chapter 16

The Crisis of Waiting

Abram and Sarai have been living with God's promise of a child for years, but Sarai remains barren. Feeling the weight of disappointment and cultural pressure, Sarai proposes a common ancient Near Eastern solution: **Abram should have a child through her Egyptian servant, Hagar.**

This is not presented as rebellion so much as human problem-solving—trying to “help” God's promise along. But it reveals how impatience can distort trust

Hagar's Conception and Sarai's Jealousy

Hagar becomes pregnant, and the relational dynamics shift.

- Hagar begins to “look with contempt” on Sarai.
- Sarai blames Abram for the situation.
- Abram tells Sarai to handle it as she sees fit.
- Sarai treats Hagar harshly, and Hagar flees into the wilderness.

This section exposes the relational fallout when people take God's promises into their own hands.