

HAGAR

Discussion Questions

We do not know Hagar's spiritual state, but she was certainly exposed to the God of Abram. She recognized the Angel of the Lord as that God and called Him "The God Who Sees". In the second encounter, God heard the lad crying and made her to see a well. He again gave her the promise that Ishmael would be a great nation.

1. God *saw* pregnant, fearful Hagar (Genesis 16). How does this encourage you?
2. Yet God commanded her to return to her mistress Sarah and the intolerable situation there (which turns out to last another 14 years). Why do you think He asked that of her?
3. Why do *we* go through hard times? (See Romans 8:28, James 1:2-4)
4. God saw and heard Hagar and Ishmael (Genesis 21) again when they were lost and dying of thirst. What is different about this time?
5. Do we believe the same God that saw Hagar also sees us today?
6. Have you been aware that God "saw" you in a specific time of trouble?
7. Do we believe that God is "all-seeing"?
8. If so, what does God see in your life today that might not please Him?
9. Are you willing to sacrifice that thing to God today and take steps to give it up? What are the steps you need to take?

Memory verse: JAMES 1:2-4 (NIV)

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."