FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

Called & Chosen: Abraham - Genesis 16:1-16 - "Only God Can Fulfill His Promises"

- 1. Is there anything specific from this message that the Lord has impressed upon your heart? If so, what is it & how do you feel the Lord calling you to respond?
- 2. Have you ever struggled to wait on the Lord's timing and work on your behalf in a given situation?

 What was the specific situation and how did you navigate it?

 What did you learn through that situation and how did the Lord ultimately work in/through you?
- 3. As you look at Genesis 16, how do Sarai's & Abram's actions relate to those of Adam & Eve recorded for us in Genesis 3?

 What specific consequences come from their determination to do what they felt was best rather than trusting fully in the Lord?

 How do their actions lead to further conflict, discord, and additional sins of their own and others involved in this narrative?
- 4. Have you ever had (or do you currently have) conflict with others that's resulted from sinful action taken by one or both parties? Were you able to make things right and seek reconciliation with the other(s) involved?

 If this is current or ongoing, what can you do in order to seek unity and peace in the situation?

 Does it make a difference as to how you approach them if they are members of the Body of Christ or not?
- 5. Where do you specifically see God's grace and mercy on full display once again to all involved in this narrative?

 How does this observation comfort you and encourage your heart in consideration of God's grace and mercy unto you?

 Are there any particular sinful actions, attitudes, etc. of which the Holy Spirit is convicting you?

If so, confess/apologize for those sins to the Lord (& if they involve sins against others, confess/apologize to them too). As you consider God's great grace and mercy toward you - also remember God's call to extend grace and mercy unto others!

- 6. Below are the "Today's Takeaways" from the sermon. Do any of these particularly encourage, convict, challenge, you, & if so, how?
 - 1. Impatience leads to doubt and then into sin!

Be patient & trust in God's faithfulness/timing!

2. Abram & Sarai take matters into their hands!

God doesn't need help to fulfill His promises!

3. Abram & Sarai's actions result in conflict!

Sinful "solutions" lead to further sin & discord!

4. God is gracious & merciful to all in this story!

No sin is too great for God's grace & mercy!