

## FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

### Called & Chosen: Abraham - Genesis 21:1-21 - "Our Ever-Faithful Promise-Keeping God"

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. We see enmity between brothers, Isaac and Ishmael (and between Sarah and Hagar) in this passage.  
Have you ever had a challenge with siblings or another family member?  
What was the grounds of the conflict and how have things played out in the situation?
3. In Genesis 21, how do we see The LORD keep specific promises that He's already made in the previous chapters of Genesis?  
What specific promises does He fulfill, and how does this impact your faith in Him?  
How does He demonstrate His care for all; whether "of the flesh" or "of the promise" in this chapter?
4. How specifically is Isaac a "Type" of Christ? (i.e. how does his birth/life recorded here foreshadow the coming of Christ?)  
What are some of the clear parallels (commonalities) within each of them being conceived and their being born?  
Isaac is the "Child of Promise" whose arrival is a partial fulfillment of God's promise, yet Jesus is the true "Seed of Abraham"  
How does the first covenant find its fulfillment in Christ, and even its completion as Jesus establishes the New Covenant?
5. Read Galatians 4:21-31.  
How does this passage shed light on the specific relevance and implications of Genesis 21?  
How does this encourage you as you look at your faith in Christ and your standing before the Lord in light of that?  
What does it mean that all who are in Christ are children of promise rather than children of the flesh?  
How should this change our perspective and, ultimately, how we find our identity in this life (by faith in Christ)?
6. Consider the book of Genesis to this point: where have you seen God's faithfulness clearly on display?  
How does the evidence of God's faithfulness through His Word and in your life to this point lead you to trust in Him more?  
Are there areas of your life where you're struggling to trust Him? (if so, confess it & ask God to strengthen & increase your faith?)
7. Below are the "Today's Takeaways" from the sermon. Do any of these particularly encourage, convict, challenge, you, & if so, how?
  1. **God is faithful to keep all of His promises:**
    - God kept His promise to Abraham & Sarah!
    - God kept His promise to Hagar & Ishmael!
    - God has kept every promise in the past!
    - God will keep every promise not yet fulfilled
  2. **Place your trust in the ever-faithful God!**