

Sermon Notes Page  
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Messages from the Wilderness #4  
Whispers in the Wilderness  
April 28, 2024  
Genesis 16:1-6

1. Week 1 – Joseph – a wilderness of being taken advantage of.
2. Week 2 – Naomi - Book of Ruth – a wilderness of tragedy.
3. Week 3 – David – a wilderness of his own making.
4. Week 4 – Hagar and Ishmael – whispers in the wilderness.
  - a. Abraham and Sarah – great pioneers of faith.
    - i. Promised a son.
    - ii. Took too long – so Sarah had a plan.
    - iii. Hagar was told to bring them a son.
  - b. Sarah rejects Hagar.
    - i. She does what she is told.
    - ii. Sarah is cruel – Genesis 16:5-6.
    - iii. Hagar runs away.
  - c. God sees me.
    - i. God’s messenger comes to Hagar in the wilderness.
    - ii. Hagar names God – “The One Who Sees Me” – Genesis 16:13.
    - iii. Hagar goes back.
  - d. Lessons from Genesis 16:
    - i. God sees us.
    - ii. God hears us.
    - iii. God sends us messengers.
    - iv. We are the messengers.
    - v. God does not solve the problem – free will!
  - e. The Expulsion of Hagar and Ismael – Genesis 21
    - i. A particularly cruel part of the story.
    - ii. The messenger shows up again.
    - iii. The messenger shows Hagar the solution.
    - iv. The story ends well – Genesis 21:20-21.