

“You’re Not From Around Here, Are You?”

Sunday, October 31, 2021, 10:30 a.m.

Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI

Pastor Jonathan DeCou

Genesis 16:1-16

BIG IDEA: I can find direction in the midst of chaos.

“Hagar...where have you come from and where are you going?”

Genesis 16:8 (CSB)



God wants Hagar to know He’s not lost her.

- God knows right where Hagar is.
- God knows the sorrow of Hagar’s heart.



God wants Hagar to consider her past.

- Is Hagar avoiding what’s in her past?
- Has Hagar resolved what’s in her past?



God wants Hagar to consider her future.

- Is her path forward based on faith and obedience?
- Is her path forward based on fear and doubt?
- Is her path forward based on sinful choices?



God wants Hagar to trust His purpose amidst her chaos.

- God gives Hagar outlandish promises.
- God allows Hagar to give Him a Name.

BIG IDEA: I can find direction in the midst of chaos.

READ: Genesis 16:1-16

THINK: Reflect on Hagar’s exchange with God and then ask yourself these questions: *As you read the opening section of Genesis 16 (v1-6), with whom do you sympathize most - Abram, Sarai, or Hagar? The least? Why? What, if anything, might justify the strategy of surrogate motherhood and helping God with His plan? Why does God reject their plan? How does God comfort the oppressed Hagar (v7-12)? How does Hagar think of her past (where she is coming from)? How does Hagar view her future (where she is going)? Why does God even ask her His question in v8? How hard would it be for Hagar to go back to Abram & Sarai? What do you make of God’s promise of blessing to Hagar about her son? Why does God insist on naming Hagar’s son, Ishmael? How is Hagar’s circumstance comprised of both chaos and blessing? What does this tell you about God?*

DO: Where have you been waiting “10 years” for God to fulfill a promise, hope or dream? How you cope with such delays? From what are you tempted to run? Are you headed into obedience and faith or sin and self? Where have you seen God lately? What name would you give God or to the place where you’ve encountered Him?