



## **Growth Group Discussion Guide**

Passage: Genesis 16

**Introduction:** In Genesis 15, God gave Abram assurance through word and sign that he would keep his promise to provide Abram with offspring. By Genesis 16, Abram has been in Canaan for ten years and remains childless. Furthermore, his wife Sarai is unable to conceive.



### **Into the Word**

1. *Why was it wrong for Abram to have a child by Hagar? How did this “solution” lead to greater problems?*
2. *Who was Hagar? List everything we know about her identity and circumstances.*
3. *What name did Hagar give to God, and why?*
4. *What does verse 13 reveal about the identity of the angel of the LORD in verses 7-12?*



### **Into the Heart**

1. *Reflect on a time when you took matters into your own hands because you felt God was taking too long to answer your prayers. What made it hard to keep waiting? What were the consequences? What have you learned about yourself and about God's grace as a result?*
2. *List some of the practices into which the Lord invites us that we might experience greater intimacy in our walk with him. What is our part and God's part in ensuring these practices bring greater intimacy with him? (See Matthew 15:7-9; Psalm 139:23-24; John 15:1-5)*



### **Into the World**

1. *Who are the “Hagars” (people who may feel hidden from God) within your reach? In our community and world? Are there “Hagars” within our church? What can we do to help such people feel seen by God? What does Scripture call us to do? (Consider Isaiah 58:6-8; 2 Corinthians 1:3-4; 1 Timothy 6:17-19; James 1:27)*