

Victory Hour

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Hagar: A Woman on the Run



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Introduction

Have you ever hung up the phone in the face of someone who angered you? ...stormed out of the room in a fit of rage? ...quit a job because you couldn't take it any more? ...left a relationship because you were hurt? ...moved because you didn't like your neighbors? ...found a new friend because the old one disappointed you? ...joined another church because someone in the last church mistreated you? ...just gave up because you were sick and tired of being sick and tired? You may just be a woman on the run.

In this lesson we will study Hagar (flight), a woman on the run. She was the Egyptian, handmaiden of Sarai (Sarah), Abram's (Abraham) wife. After conceiving Abram's child, at the suggestion of Sarah, who tried to help God fulfill His promise that she and Abram would have a child, things took a turn for the worse. Many of us, like Hagar, find ourselves on the run when things don't go the way we desire. When we are hurt, disappointed, mistreated, or angry, we start packing up and going to the next relationship, the next church, the next job, the next marriage, the next, the next, the next. This lesson will challenge you to take a look at yourself and like Hagar, you must answer two very important questions - Where have you come from? And, where are you going?

Outline

- I) **God's Covenant with Abraham – (Gen. 12:2-3; 15:5; 17:4-8)**
 - a. Gen. 12:2-3
 - i. "I will make you a great nation and bless you."
 - ii. "I will make your name great and you will be a blessing."
 - iii. "I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you."
 - iv. "All the peoples on earth will be blessed through you."
 - b. Gen. 15:5
 - i. "Look up at the heavens and count the stars – if indeed you can count them. So shall your offspring be."
 - c. Gen. 17:4-8
 - i. "You will be the Father of many nations."
 - ii. Name changed from Abram to Abraham
 - iii. "I will make you fruitful; I will make nations of you."
 - iv. "I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between you and between your descendents..."

**II) Sarah, the Matchmaker (Gen. 16:2-4a)**

- a. A “Homemade” Blessing
 - i. The Problem – Sarai is barren
 - ii. The Plan – Sarai gives Hagar to her husband to marry & to conceive

III) Sarah’s Plan Backfires (Gen. 16:4b-6a)

- a. “Baby Mama Drama”
 - i. Resentment
 1. Hagar with Sarai
 2. Sarai with Abram
 3. Sarai with Hagar

IV) Hagar, A Woman on the Run (Gen. 16:7-8)

- a. The Angel of the Lord found Hagar – v. 7
- b. A life-changing conversation
 - i. Review: “Where have you come from?”
 - ii. Responsibility: “Where are you going?”
 - iii. Return: “Go back to your mistress.”
 - iv. Revelation: “I have now seen the One who sees me.”

V) Hagar and Ishmael are Sent Away (Gen. 21:1-21; 25:12-15)

- a. God’s Presence
- b. God’s Provision
- c. God’s Promise

Questions to Ponder

1. What / Who are you running from?
2. As you review your past, what patterns have you found in your relationships that you continue to blame on others?
3. Is there something in your past that is affecting and blocking what God has for you in the future?
4. Do you need to go back and submit? Apologize? Make it right?

Conclusion

Many times life brings us full-circle by allowing us to continuously run into the very thing we are running from. You can get off the treadmill of life and *see the One who sees you*. Review your past, take responsibility for your present actions, and return and submit, so that you can receive the blessings of God for your future. God’s presence is with you. God is providing for you and God will keep every promise He has spoken in your life.