

Ishmael Is Born

1. Carefully read through Genesis 15-17. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 15:6, "And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness."
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 15-17.
4. What is the first question that Abram asks God? How does God respond? What is it that Abram believes? How does the New Testament apply verse 6?
5. What is the second question that Abram asks God? How does God respond? What is the significance of the carcasses, birds of prey, smoking fire pot, and flaming torch? What does verse 16 reveal about God's character?

6. Who is Hagar? What plan does Sarai propose? How is this chapter similar to chapter 3? Does God approve of polygamy?
7. What does God tell Hagar to do? What does God promise her? Does God approve of slavery?
8. How much time passes between chapters 16 and 17? What does God promise to do for Abraham? What does God expect Abraham to do?
9. What is Abraham's response in 17:17-18? What is Abraham's response in 17:23? What does this reveal about Abraham's character?