

Genesis: The Book That Started It All

Group Guide | October 26

Open with questions and prayer (20 minutes).

Start your group time by having everyone ask and answer the following questions:

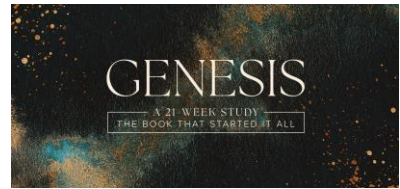
- When was a season of life when things felt unfair? What happened?
- How did that affect your relationship with God? With others?

After some sharing, pray together.

Read and reflect on Genesis 16. Then, pray (45 minutes).

Read Genesis 16 together.

- What stood out to you about this week's sermon? How did it challenge or encourage you?
- In this passage, Abram, Sarai, and Hagar felt their situations were unfair. How would you describe the unique ways in which "unfairness" presented itself in each of their lives? How did they respond?
- Think now about Sarai. When have you felt that life's timeline or outcomes were unfair, especially when you've waited for something you deeply desired? How do/how have you navigated the tension between trusting God's timing and taking action in your own hands?
- In this sermon, Dan cautioned us that when life feels unfair, to not "try to solve the problem by using culturally acceptable practices that are outside of God's plan." What might be some ways in which people do this very thing today?
- Think back to times of Hagar-like unfairness in your life (either what you've already mentioned or other moments). In what ways have you attempted to get through those seasons through culturally acceptable means that weren't necessarily the most God-honoring? Explain.
- What are some examples of godly ways to handle the unfairness of life? Point to Bible characters or specific Scriptures.



- When life feels unfair, do you sense that you are “seen” or “heard” by God? How does Hagar’s encounter with God shape your understanding of finding hope in moments of despair?
- Do you trust that God not only has a good plan for your life, but also a good plan for *this* part of your life? Explain. What Scriptures comfort you with this hope? Share them with your group.

Closing reflection and prayer (15 minutes).

- Encourage everyone to take a moment of silence to reflect on this question: “Where do I need to trust that God sees me and is with me this week?”
- Then, invite a few people to share what came to mind.

Finish by sharing prayer requests and have someone pray over the group—thanking God that He sees us and is with us no matter what.