



**TIC Connect Group Discussion Guide**  
28 July - 3 August 2019 | Genesis 12-20

**The Message.** “Man must not only leave the end to God, but also the means.” John Lange.

**Context.** Abram was born and grew up in Ur of the Chaldeans, a city located in the land of Mesopotamia. According to Joshua 24:2, they were idol worshippers. God revealed himself to Abram and asked him to leave his country and go to the land God will show him. Abram left Ur. But, when he was in Haran, he settled there for around five years. After his father Terah died in Haran, he continued his journey to Canaan, the land that God promised him.

**Observation & Meaning**

1. What promise does God give Abraham?
  - a. 12:2-3: \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. 15:1-6: \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. 15:7 : \_\_\_\_\_.
2. What was the situation?
  - a. 12:1 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. 11:30 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. 12:10 : \_\_\_\_\_.
3. How does Abraham respond?
  - a. 12:11-17: \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 20:1-2 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. 16:1-4 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 17:17 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. 12:10 : \_\_\_\_\_.
4. How does God intervene?
  - a. 12:17 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 20:3 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. 17:19 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 17:20 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. 12:20 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 20:15 : \_\_\_\_\_.
5. What is the significance of Hagar mentioned as an Egyptian twice in 16:1-3 (cf. 12:10-20)? What does this tell us about the consequence of sin?
6. What is the significance of God not mentioned at all in 16:1-6?
7. How does the scenario in Genesis 16:1-3 replay the scene in Genesis 3:6?
8. What does 16:2 and 16:6 tell us about Abraham’s character at this point?

## **Application**

### FCF.

9. In what ways can we leave God out of the picture in making decisions?
10. What deeper sin or heart issues should we address when we find ourselves in this situation?

### Christ-Centeredness.

11. How does Jesus Christ surrender to the Father's will?
12. How does Jesus as the seed of Abraham fulfill God's covenant?
13. What hope does the fulfillment of the covenant give to us?
14. In light of this, how can we actively wait on the Lord without being passive?

## **Insight**

Surrogation. Sarai encouraged Abram to take part in what was essentially a surrogate mother arrangement in that day. According to custom, the child would be considered to be the child of Abram and Sarai, not Abram and Hagar. ... Even though this early form of surrogate motherhood was common and accepted in that day, it doesn't mean it was right. God was clearly not leading Abram and Sarai. (Guzik).

Half-sister. Sarai was Abram's half sister (Genesis 20:12). Yet a half-truth is a whole lie. Abram's intent here was clearly to deceive, and he trusted in his deception to protect him instead of trusting in the LORD. (Guzik).

Melchizedek. The name Melchizedek means "king of righteousness." He is the king of Salem, and Salem is the original Jerusalem, and Melchizedek is the priest of God Most High. He is a worshipper and priest of the true God, ruling over Jerusalem even in those ancient times. (Guzik).

## **Resources**

Guzik, David. *Genesis*. Enduring Word Commentary. Enduring Word Media, 2012.