

***Executive Pastor
Kerry Murray***



THE MESSAGE

JAMES 1:22

"...DON'T JUST LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD. YOU MUST DO WHAT IT SAYS.
OTHERWISE, YOU ARE ONLY FOOLING YOURSELVES."

**Warning:
Do not
hold the
wrong end
of this
product**



Warning:
May
contain
nuts



**Warning:
this
costume
does not
enable the
wearer to
fly**



**Warning:
do not use
on clothes
that you
are already
wearing**



Warning:
Not
suitable for
drying pets

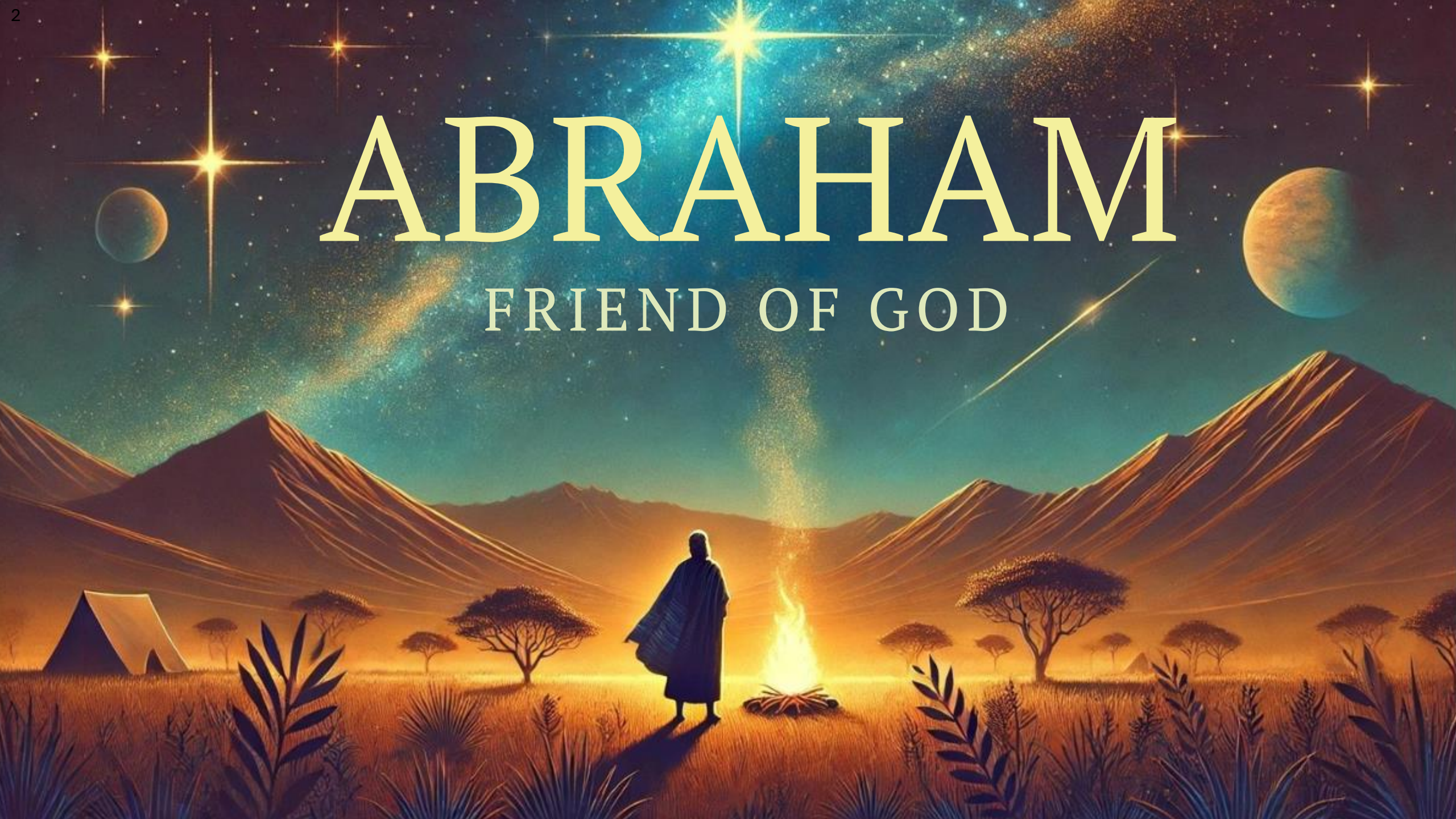


**Warning:
Remove
before
driving**



ABRAHAM

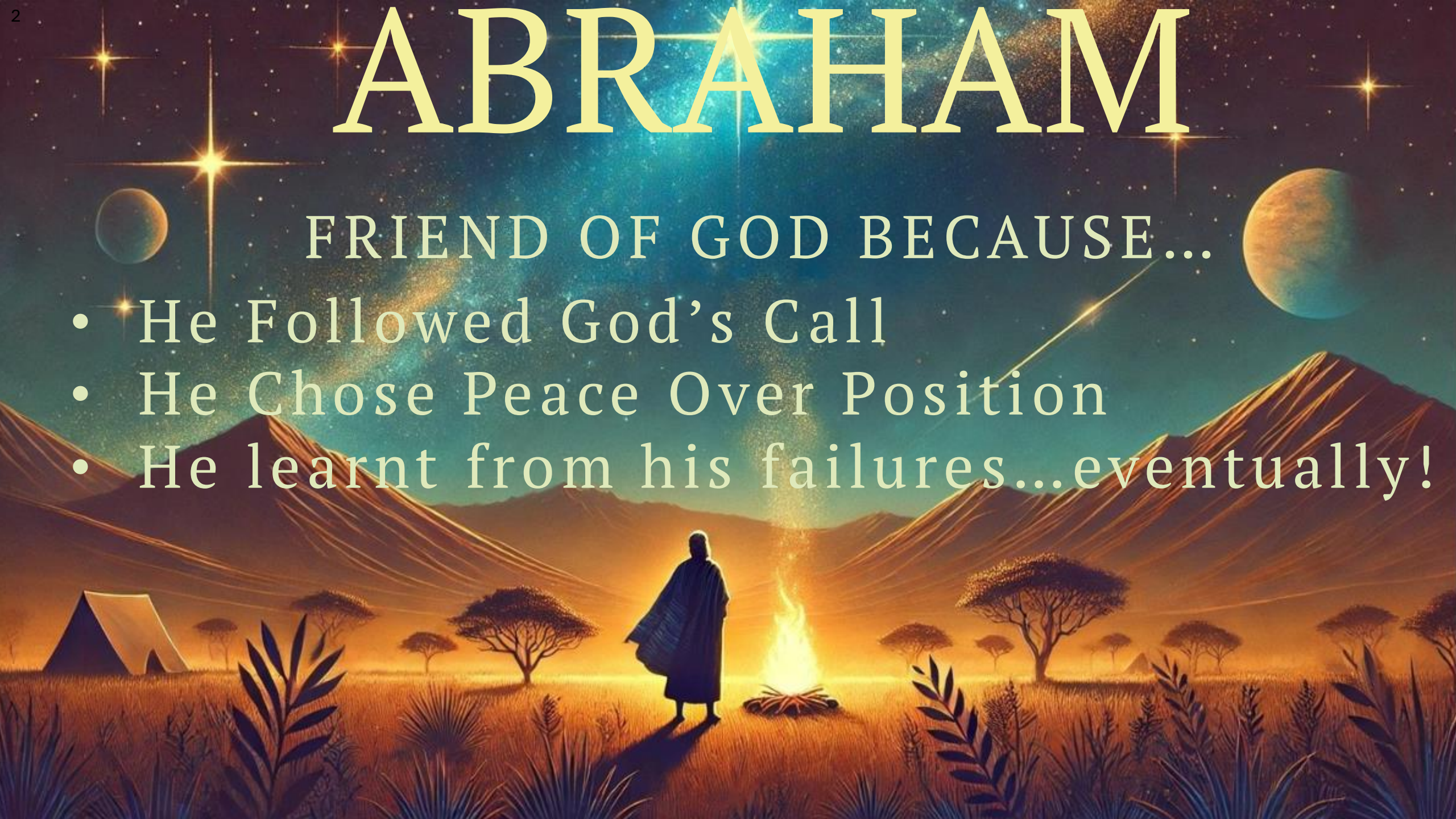
FRIEND OF GOD



ABRAHAM

FRIEND OF GOD BECAUSE...

- He Followed God's Call
- He Chose Peace Over Position
- He learnt from his failures...eventually!



Activity 4

Packs



**No matter how often honest people fall,
they always get up again; but disaster
destroys the wicked**

Proverbs 24:16



Hagar
hurting but heard

Sarai
struggling so scheming



Abram
passive and permitting

ABRAHAM - FRIEND OF GOD

Sarai-struggling so scheming

Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had not been able to bear children for him. But she had an Egyptian servant named Hagar. So Sarai said to Abram, "The Lord has prevented me from having children. Go with my servant. Perhaps I can have children through her."

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

Sarai-struggling so scheming

And Abram agreed with Sarai's proposal. So Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian servant and gave her to Abram as a wife. (This happened ten years after Abram had settled in the land of Canaan.)

Genesis 16:1-3

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

Sarai-struggling so scheming

Perhaps...

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

Sarai-struggling so scheming

“My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,” says the Lord.

“And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.”

Isaiah 55: 8

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

Sarai-struggling so scheming

*Did God REALLY say...?
The woman was CONVINCED
She wanted...she took...
She gave...*

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

Abram-passive and permitting

So Abram went with Hagar, and she became pregnant. But when Hagar knew she was pregnant, she began to treat her mistress, Sarai, with contempt. Then Sarai said to Abram, "This is all your fault!"

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

Abram-passive and permitting

I put my servant into your arms, but now that she's pregnant she treats me with contempt. The Lord will show who's wrong—you or me!"
Abram replied, "Look, she is your servant, so deal with her as you see fit." Then Sarai treated Hagar so harshly that she finally ran away.

Genesis 16:4-6

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

Abram-passive and permitting



Ur Namu Law
Code 5: If a slave
marries a native
(free) person,
he/she is to hand
the firstborn son
over to his owner.

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

Abram-passive and permitting

*“I am the Lord who brought you out
of Ur of the Chaldeans”*

Genesis 15:7

*So all of us who have had that veil
removed can see and reflect the glory of
the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—
makes us more and more like Him*

2 Corinthians 3: 18

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

Hagar-hurting but heard



Hagar-hurting but heard



Ur Namu Law Code 25:
If a man's slave-woman,
comparing herself to her
mistress, speaks
insolently to her, her
mouth shall be scoured
with 1 quart of salt.

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

Hagar-hurting but heard

*The angel of the Lord found
Hagar... The angel said to
her, “Hagar, Sarai’s servant,
where have you come from,
and where are you going?”*

Genesis 16:7-8

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

Hagar-hurting but heard

אֵל רֹאִי

El Roi – The God Who Sees Me
(El Roe-ee)

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

1. Immediate Family Conflict

The short-term consequence was domestic turmoil within Abraham's household.

Once Hagar became pregnant, her relationship with Sarah again deteriorated, leading to Sarah demanding that Abraham permanently cast Hagar and Ishmael out into the desert.

2. Historical and Political Friction

The friction between the two branches of Abraham's family extended far past their lifetimes. Traditionally, Ishmael is recognized as a major patriarch of the Arab peoples, while Isaac is the patriarch of the Jewish people.

Hagar-hurting but heard

EXTRA STUDY-GENESIS 16/ GALATIANS 4

In the New Testament, the relationship between Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar is interpreted not just as historical history, but as an allegory -a picture -for two different systems of relating to God.

The primary meaning is found in Galatians 4:21–31, where the Apostle Paul uses the two women and their sons to contrast legalism with divine grace.

1. Human Effort vs. Divine Promise

The two sons represent two completely different ways of trying to obtain God's blessings:

- **Hagar (The Flesh):** Ishmael was born "according to the flesh." This represents human effort, manipulation, and taking matters into one's own hands because of a lack of faith in God's timing.
- **Sarah (The Promise):** Isaac was born "through promise." This represents supernatural, divine intervention. Isaac's birth was physically impossible without a miracle, symbolizing that true relationship with God relies entirely on His grace and power.

2. The Mosaic Covenant vs. The New Covenant

Paul explicitly compares the two women to two different covenants made by God:

- **Hagar represents Mount Sinai:** This is the covenant of the Law given to Moses. Paul notes that Hagar corresponds to the "present Jerusalem" because it leads to spiritual slavery. Trying to earn righteousness through strictly following rules results in bondage, much like Hagar's status as a slave.
- **Sarah represents the "Jerusalem above":** This is the New Covenant established through Jesus Christ. It represents freedom, grace, and spiritual inheritance. Followers of Christ are viewed as "children of the promise," just like Isaac.

3. Slavery vs. Freedom

The allegory focuses heavily on the status of the believer before God:

- **Children of the slave woman** have no legal right to the ultimate family inheritance. In a theological sense, those who try to rely on their own good works or strict legalism remain slaves to sin and the law.
- **Children of the free woman** are the rightful heirs. Through faith, believers are adopted into God's family as free citizens, inheriting the spiritual blessings promised to Abraham.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1U373Kpuej0QJWJybLrm40K1kBtINGqYX/view?usp=sharing>

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

CONCLUSION/RESPONSE:

Are we like Sarai-full of shame,
doubt or burden and tempted
to use our own 'Perhaps'
instead of turning honestly and
openly to God?

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

CONCLUSION/RESPONSE

Are we like Abram-knowing what
the right thing to do is but
tempted to return to our 'Ur'
because it seems easier and less
painful for us or the people
around us?

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

CONCLUSION/RESPONSE

Are we like Hagar-hurting
and feeling that we have no
identity and no purpose;
needing to hear from El Roi?

ABRAHAM FRIEND OF GOD

THE LIVE STREAM

***IS NOW
FINISHING***

SEE YOU NEXT TIME

➞ Transformation Community Church



TRANSFORMATION
COMMUNITY CHURCH



SUBSCRIBE