<u>Discussion Guide</u> Series: Origins Wk 8: God Sees & Hears February 23, 2025

<u>Big Idea</u>

God sees and hears you, no matter who you are.

🎖 <u>Icebreaker</u>

Using the four seasons of the year, what season of life (based on feeling, etc.) do you feel that you are in currently & why? Why may it be encouraging to realize that life does seem to journey through seasons?

Discussion Questions

- Overall, in this "Origins" sermon series, we have seen a cycle or pattern as follows (fill in the blanks):

 God's G_____ness, 2) Human S____, 3) C____quences, 4) God's G_____. As we consider the following major events that we have covered in this series thus far, in what ways do you see the specific elements of this cycle? <u>Major Happenings</u>: 1) Creation 2) Cain & Able 3) Noah 4) Tower of Babel. When you look at your life, what part of the cycle are you in & why do you say that?
- 2. We continued with Abram (Abraham) and Sarai (Sarah) this past Sunday. Recap their journey/life thus far prior to Genesis chapter 16?
- 3. Read Genesis 16:1-6. Considering the major characters in this account and what is happening, what is Hagar's role in it all? How about Abraham's role in it all? And how about Sarah's role in it all? How do you feel about each character and the role they are playing? What do you think they are feeling or experiencing? What do these findings tell you about them which can help you to learn and to more successfully conduct your own life?
- 4. Read Genesis 16:7-13. What does Hagar name the Lord and why does she do so? How can this fact be of encouragement to you?
- 5. Read Genesis 18: 1-15. In this section we realize that the Lord h_____ Sarah. This indicates to us that God h_____ us too! How can, this be, or how is, realizing this an encouragement to you? When you typically think of Bible characters that God used do you think things like: *"they must have had it all together, nothing like me!"* or *"these people were super holy, unlike me!"* Is that true though, with Abraham and Sarah? Is it true of some of the other characters we have seen thus far in this sermon series (give examples)? In the end we learn that (fill in the blank): *God is d_____ing Abraham and Sarah.*
- 6. Read Genesis 21:1-7. Why can we conclude here that God's grace is always a part of the cycle of what He is working to accomplish? In what ways have you realized that in your life's journey? How are you realizing it currently?

Concluding Questions

Read Genesis 21:8-21. How here do we: 1) once again realize that God sees & hears us and that this is true no matter who we are? AND 2) see that sin doesn't stay in a vacuum, but that it impacts others? What can you learn from either of these realizations?

Prayer

Share personal prayer requests and pray for the Zambia Work Trip Team that is meeting and preparing to head out on mission, 3/17/25.