



Grace Assembly Of God

Chapter-By-Chapter Bible Reading Devotional

Scripture:	Genesis 21	Title:	"God has heard"
Author:	Ps Jadene Ng		
Summary of Chapter:	The promised son had finally arrived. Instead of lasting joy and peace to the household, tensions arose in the family as the children grew up. Ishmael was seen making fun of Isaac and Sarah demanded for Abraham to get rid of Hagar and her son.		
Key Verses (NLT):		How does it speak to me?	
<p><i>12 But God told Abraham, "Do not be upset over the boy and your servant. Do whatever Sarah tells you, for Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted.</i></p> <p><i>17 But God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, "Hagar, what's wrong? Do not be afraid! God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. 18 Go to him and comfort him, for I will make a great nation from his descendants."</i></p>		<p>It was no easy task for Abraham to deal with this situation. He was understandably upset. So too was Hagar's despair when they were banished to the wilderness.</p> <p>Have we seen our own family members in distress and felt helpless and upset at what they had to go through? Have we heard the news all over the world on their pain and suffering and we may wonder if God cares? God's word to us today is, <i>Don't be upset for My plans are higher than your plans.</i> His assurance to us is, <i>Don't be afraid for My ways are higher than your ways.</i> He hears the cries of the poor and the weak, the lost and the lonely. He might tell us to let Him take care of the situation or He might tell us to go and comfort them. Let us be attentive to God when we are in the midst of an upsetting or desperate situation. Let Him direct us and show us what we ought to do, according to His purposes.</p>	
APPLICATION QUESTIONS:			
Adult:	How might my family and I be more attentive to God and His mission in the midst of all the desperate needs and distress we are in or others are in?		
Youth:	Have you heard of any friends or class mates whose families are going through hard times? Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to direct you on what you can do. Share with your family.		
Child:	Do you think God hears you when you cry? When was the last time you cried bitterly (very sadly)? What happened? Share this incident with your parents. Remember that even when we do not understand why things turn out the way they do, God has His reasons.		
PRAYER:			
Praying Scripture:	Dear Lord, I want to be aware of the guidance of the Holy Spirit each day, not just for myself but also to the needs of others around me. Thank You for hearing the cries of pain and suffering. Thank You for Your heart of compassion. Speak to me today on what I can do to be Your instrument of prayer, of love and of comfort. In Jesus' name I/we pray, Amen.		
Thanksgiving:	I/We thank you for daily provision, for all that we have. We are grateful!		
Intercessory Prayer:	I/We want to pray for those whose livelihood have been affected in the crisis. Those whose families have experienced loss. Those who have fallen sick. Heal and restore them, we pray.		
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (can add one name per day). In Jesus Name I/we pray. Amen.		

