

LEARNER SHEET: SARAH, HAGAR, AND ABRAHAM

Genesis 12–25



PRAYER TIME

Remember your partner's prayer needs—record them here.

DISCUSSION TIME

- **Do you think angels still appear today? What might be an example?**

- **What kind of people did God pick to bring about the nations of Israel and Islam? Who is your favorite character in this story?**

- **What is similar and different about the main tenets of Christianity and Islam?**



THE BIG IDEA

God really does keep promises to the chosen people of faith—so be patient.



BIG FUN IDEA

You had to be clever and resourceful in the desert. Divide up into small teams. Using only newspaper and masking tape, make a table that stands up. (Hints: rolled-up newspapers work best, three legs on the table work better than four.)



BIG SERVING IDEA

Create posters describing each of the matriarchs from this session: Sarah and Hagar. How might they have looked? Include some wise words they might have said. Share these posters with a Women of the ELCA group in your congregation or with a Sunday school class so they can see these stories through the eyes of Sarah and Hagar.

LEARNER TAKE-HOME SHEET: SARAH, HAGAR, AND ABRAHAM

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KEY WORDS

Keep a family white board someplace near the dinner table, and write these words on it. Try writing a family definition for each one during the week.

FAITHFUL

LAUGHTER

ANGELS

Take this sheet home and keep it someplace near the dinner table like on the fridge. At least three times next week at dinner, use Prayer Time and one other family activity to make your confirmation learning come alive!

PRAYER TIME

God of Abraham and Sarah,

May we bring to you the longings of our hearts,

May we hear from you the purpose of our lives,

May we work with one another in your grace. Amen

TALK TIME

- Abraham and Sarah had to wait a long time for a child. In the meantime, they became impatient. Count the days until Christmas or a family birthday. What helps you wait? Keep a plant on the table and see if you can see it changing.
- How is it going with your extended family? In today's Bible story, Abraham and Sarah become a whole nation. They must have had large family reunions! Take a moment to send a note and picture to a grandparent, cousin, aunt, or uncle who lives far away from you.
- God's time varied enormously from Abraham and Sarah's concept of time. How do members of your family see time in different ways? What is "sleeping in"? How early is "going to bed early"? At what ages should you be able to do various things? What does "being on time" mean? Pray to keep hearing one another's view of the clock.

It looks like you and Abraham have a lot to talk about. I think I'll go for a long walk in the wilderness.



WEB TIME

Do a search on the Internet for "Isaac and Ishmael." What do you find? Explore a few of the sites and discuss the various opinions and perspectives presented. What kind of organizations do you think build the sites and what is their purpose? Discuss.

RITUAL TIME

Go outside on a clear night and start counting stars in order to estimate the number of Abraham and Sarah's descendants. This will obviously work best if you're camping or live outside a city. (Or scoop up a shovelful of sand at a beach and try counting the grains.)