

THE NAMES OF GOD

Discussion Guide
September 9, 2012

The God Who Sees, El Roi

Genesis 16

Genesis 16 — ¹ Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. She had a female Egyptian servant whose name was Hagar. ² And Sarai said to Abram, "Behold now, the Lord has prevented me from bearing children. Go in to my servant; it may be that I shall obtain children by her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. ³ So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife. ⁴ And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress. ⁵ And Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my servant to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the Lord judge between you and me!" ⁶ But Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your servant is in your power; do to her as you please." Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her. ⁷ The angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. ⁸ And he said, "Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am fleeing from my mistress Sarai." ⁹ The angel of the Lord said to her, "Return to your mistress and submit to her." ¹⁰ The angel of the Lord also said to her, "I will surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude." ¹¹ And the angel of the Lord said to her, "Behold, you are pregnant and shall bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael, because the Lord has listened to your affliction. ¹² He shall be a wild donkey of a man, his hand against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen." ¹³ So she called the name of the Lord who spoke to her, "You are a God of seeing," for she said, "Truly here I have seen him who looks after me." ¹⁴ Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; it lies between Kadesh and Bered. ¹⁵ And Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. ¹⁶ Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.

Sermon Outline

- I. **The LORD Knows Everything and Loves Us Anyway**
 - A. His Understanding is beyond measure [Psalm 147:5]
 - B. He Knows Us [Psalm 139:1-17; Rom 11:33]
- II. **The LORD Seeks Us Out**
 - A. Genesis 16:7-8
 - B. The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost [Luke 19:10]
- III. **The LORD Gives Us Direction**
 - A. Genesis 16:9
- IV. **The LORD Gives Us Promises**
 - A. Genesis 16:10-12
 - B. He will never leave us [Heb 13:5]
- V. **The God Who Sees, El Roi**
 - A. Genesis 16:13-16
 - B. A Divine Pattern: He Knows Us—Crisis—He seeks us—We turn to Him—He gives direction—He gives promises—He fulfills His promises—we praise His name [El Roi]
- VI. **Know Him**
 - A. Eternal Life [John 17:3]

Proverbs 18:10 — *The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe.*

Psalms 139:1-4 — *1 O Lord, you have searched me and known me! 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. 3 You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. 4 Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.*

Psalms 147:5 — *Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.*

Luke 19:10 — *For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.*

1 John 3:5 — *You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.*

Matthew 6:34 — *"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.*

Hebrews 13:5 — *for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you"*

2 Timothy 2:13 — *if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.*

Discussion Questions

1. In what ways have you learned to “trust in the name of the LORD our God”?
2. Does the truth that God knows everything bring comfort or concern?
3. Have you ever found yourself running from your circumstances or from God only to find out that He meets you in them?
4. How do you handle difficult life circumstances when it seems like the LORD is not answering your prayers?
5. What are some of God’s promises that have been a “strong tower” to you?
6. How does the arrival, life, death, resurrection, ascension and return of Jesus demonstrate that the LORD is “The God Who Sees”?

NOTES

C S P M R T M G Y W I F E
 O M T A B R A M D E H S C
 M S G F E M A L E D A E E
 F A O C H I L D R E N R N
 H R L O O K S O R O G V S
 E A N N L N L P Y D E A A
 E I L T D E C R V G L N I
 O F B E A R E E O G I T D
 B N A M E V C V I A S H S
 T O H P E F T E C V T A P
 A S R T B O R N E E E N R
 I V B E G Y P T I A N D I
 N D M I S T R E S S E A N
 C A L L I V E D L A D T G

ABRAM	ANGEL	BEAR
BEHOLD	BORE	BORNE
CALL	CHILDREN	CONCEIVED
CONTEMPT	EGYPTIAN	EVERYONE
FEMALE	GAVE	HAGAR
HAND	ISHMAEL	LISTENED
LIVED	LOOKS	LORD
MISTRESS	NAME	OBTAIN
PREVENTED	SAID	SARAI
SERVANT	SPRING	VOICE
WHEN	WIFE	YEARS

Psalm 33:13–15 — 13 The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man; 14 from where he sits enthroned he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth, 15 he who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds.

Proverbs 5:21 — For a man’s ways are before the eyes of the Lord, and he ponders all his paths.

Proverbs 15:3 — The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.

Exodus 3:7–8 — 7 Then the Lord said, “I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, 8 and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey

John 17:3 — And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

John 3:16–17 — 16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Romans 11:33 — Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

God’s Vision and Mission for the Alliance Bible Church

The Alliance Bible Church is a multi-cultural church celebrating the life of Christ in us by:

- Proclaiming the full message of God’s Good News to the diverse cultures of McHenry and surrounding communities,
- Discipling believers in living the deeper Christian life,
- Equipping His people for the work of ministry, and
- Demonstrating the unconditional love of Jesus to our community through meaningful acts of service.