



PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE—YOUTH

Lesson 1: God Gives A New Life to Abraham and Sarah—Genesis 21

ENCOUNTER—Community Discussion

After reading the passage, take time to journal through the questions below. Don't feel like you have to answer all these questions. Wrestle with the text, and be prepared to share with your community.

*How is this God's story?
How is this others' story?*

*How is this my story?
How is this the world's story?*

PRAYER

O God, our Creator, all life is in your hands. Remind us to treasure our humanity and to respect the awesome honor we have to share in creation. May all people be treated with dignity and love. May Your Spirit guide us when we fail to love, we pray. Let liberty and autonomy be tempered by responsibility, integrity and morality. In the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

WEEKLY PRACTICE

Find a blank sheet of paper, or go to your iPad or computer, and create a document. At the top of the sheet write or type: Seven Reasons Why I am Grateful for Life. Each day this week, take time to write at least one reason why you are grateful for life. Be ready to share your seven (minimum) reasons why you are grateful to be alive.

BECOMING MY STORY

Romans 12:2

I Peter 1:13-15

I Peter 2:9

I Corinthians 6:19-20

Spend time this week reading and journaling through the above scriptures. Reflect on how the passage is God's story, my story, others' story and the world's story. In the context of Genesis 21, consider the following questions:

How are these Scripture passages related to the message in Genesis 21?

How do these scriptures tell us about the story of God being continued from Genesis 21?

What is God saying to you through these passages?

Consider other passages you might know related to Genesis 21 and read them this week, journaling as you go.