



Building Faith Brick by Brick: Hagar and Ishmael

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Week of June 21, 2020

These activities are designed to be used with LEGO bricks. However, if you don't have LEGOs at home, that's okay! Grab blocks, or boxes, or play dough, or anything else you can use to build a scene. Or, you can draw or color your response to the story on a sheet of paper.

Show us your creations by emailing photos to Victoria Hoppes at victoria@rlcindy.org. We might just share them with others!

PRAY: Dear God, your love is for all people. Thank you for helping us share that love with everyone. Amen.

READ: Genesis 21:8-21 (For younger children, you may want to read or tell the story by using the story script on page 2.)

RESPOND AND BUILD: I wonder what it looked like for Hagar and Ishmael to be in the desert? Build a scene that shows what you think it looked like!

BUILDING QUESTIONS:

As you build, ask some of these questions to "wonder" together about the story. Pick and choose a few to guide your discussion!

- I wonder why Sarah told Abraham to send Hagar and Ishmael away?
- I wonder how Hagar felt when she was sent away? What about Ishmael?
- I wonder how Abraham felt when he sent Hagar and Ishmael away?
- I wonder how Hagar and Ishmael felt when they ran out of water?
- I wonder how Hagar felt when she found the well?
- I wonder if you can share about a time when you have been an outsider in a group of people?
- I wonder if you can share about a time when you saw that someone else was an outsider?
- I wonder if you can share about a time when you helped someone who others think is an outsider? How have you welcomed other people into a group?
- I wonder if God hears us cry when we are hurting?
- I wonder how we are like the angel, bringing God's message of love to those who other people might think are outsiders?

SHARE: Share your scenes with each other. What did you build? You can also email photos of your scenes to victoria@rlcindy.org and we will share them with the congregation!

PRAY: Dear God, you care for and love all people. Thank you for listening to us when we cry. Help us share your love with everyone. Amen.

Story Script

Genesis 21:8-21

Isaac was a happy boy and loved by his parents. When his mom Sarah saw that Isaac and Ishmael were playing together (Ishmael was Isaac's half brother; his mother was Hagar, Sarah's slave) she wasn't at all happy. She told Abraham to get rid of Ishmael and his mother. Abraham was really upset about this, but God told him not to worry. Each of his sons, Isaac and Ishmael, would be the "father of a nation."

So Abraham gave Hagar food and water and sent her and Ishmael out of the house and into the desert. When their water was gone she thought they would probably die out there in the wilderness. God heard Ishmael crying, and God's angel called to Hagar from heaven, "Don't be afraid! God has heard you crying. He will come to help you." Then, Hagar found a well and was able to get water for the both of them.

God was with Ishmael, and he grew up to be strong.

From God's Word, My Voice: A Lectionary for Children by Lyn Zill Briggs (Church Publishing, 2015)