

Sermon Discussion Guide

May 8, 2022

READ

Read Genesis 16:1–6 and 21:8–21 aloud and consider making some observations about the passage.

Sermon Recap: *Review the sermon with your group, highlighting the following:*

- How do we see God’s goodness in the midst of suffering and pain? His presence.
- God’s providence doesn’t give us license to sin, but God can take our sin and poor choices and still work beauty out of it!
- In Genesis 12, God says he is going to bless Abram, and through Abram, the whole world will be blessed. In other words, God has a heart for the Jew and the Gentile.
- God’s providence means he’s taking my suffering, heartbreak, and betrayal, and using them for his glory and my good.

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. The first name a character gives to God in the Bible is *El-Roi*, the God who sees (Genesis 16:13). What does this story tell us about God’s nature?
2. In your life, where are you tempted to doubt God’s sovereignty and goodness to you?
3. Looking at our circumstances can be a poor indication of God’s attitude toward us. Read Romans 5:8. How does the cross show us God’s goodness and sovereignty?
4. What are some practical ways we can help each other trust in God’s sovereignty?

Weekly Response Questions	Prayer
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Reflect: How has God been good to you?<input type="checkbox"/> Respond: What is one thing God is calling you to do this week in obedience?<input type="checkbox"/> Reach: Who do you know that needs to hear about God’s goodness?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Praise God for his good and wise sovereignty in your life. Thank him especially for sending his Son .<input type="checkbox"/> Ask God to comfort those you know who are going through trials. Pray that God’s presence would be balm for their hearts.