

Week 7

Matters of Life and Death

Lean In

Week 7

Matters of Life and Death

Learn

1. God had commanded Abraham, _____ .

Genesis 15:1, "After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."

2. Two responses from Genesis 20:

a. Fear of _____ : Abimelech

b. Fear of _____ : Abraham

3. God's sovereignty over fertility is setting the audience up for the _____ of Isaac.

4. God is _____ .

Genesis 21:1-2, "The Lord visited Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did to Sarah as he had promised. And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him."

5. A long _____ does not mean an _____ promise.

6. Paul teaches us that the two women represented two covenants, the law and freedom.

Galatians 4:21-31: Tell me, you who want to live under the law, do you know what the law actually says. The Scriptures say that Abraham had two sons, one from his slave wife and one from his freeborn wife. The son of the slave wife was born in a human attempt to bring about the fulfillment of God's promise. But the son of the freeborn wife was born as God's own fulfillment of his promise. These two women serve as an illustration of God's two covenants. The first woman, Hagar, represents Mount Sinai where people received the law that enslaved them. And now Jerusalem is just like Mount Sinai in Arabia, because she and her children live in slavery to the law. But the other woman, Sarah, represents the heavenly Jerusalem. She is the free woman, and she is our mother. As Isaiah said, "Rejoice, O childless woman, you who have never given birth! Break into a joyful shout, you who have never been in labor! For the desolate woman now has more children than the woman who lives with her husband!" And you, dear brothers and sisters, are children of the promise, just like Isaac. But you are now being persecuted by those who want you to keep the law, just as Ishmael, the child born by human effort, persecuted Isaac, the child born by the power of the Spirit. But what do the Scriptures say about that? "Get rid of the slave and her son, for the son of the slave woman will not share the inheritance with the free woman's son." So, dear brothers and sisters, we are not children of the slave woman; we are children of the free woman.

7. Ishmael was born by the _____ of the _____ .

8. Isaac was born by the _____ of the _____ .

9. God still _____ . He does not abandon us.

10. Let only a _____ fear of _____ motivate our choices and desires.