

Ishmael is Sent Away

(Based on Genesis 21:1-21)

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After waiting twenty-five years for the promised child, at last baby Isaac was born. Isaac means laughter and Sarah gave him that name because her heart was filled with laughter. She and Abraham were so happy.



Isaac was a growing boy and on the day he started eating only big people food, Abraham had a party for him. But Ishmael, Abraham's son from the slave woman, was mocking and making fun of Isaac. Sarah saw him doing it.



Send away Ishmael and his mom!” said Sarah. Abraham was very sad but God told him to listen to Sarah and promised to make a nation from Ishmael too.



Early in the morning Abraham put bread and a container of water onto Hagar's shoulder. Then he sent Ishmael and his mom away into the wilderness.



When they ran out of water Hager put Ishmael under a shrub and then she walked a distance away. "I don't want to see my boy die," she sobbed.



God heard the voice of the boy. "Hagar," said God's angel, "don't be afraid. Hold your boy." God showed her a well of water. She brought water to Ishmael.



God was with Ishmael and he lived in the wilderness where he became an archer. His mother brought him a wife from Egypt.



Lord, thank you that you never leave us, especially when families go through troubles or when we have to face the consequences of our choices. You are good.