

REJECTED, ALONE, AND SEEN BY GOD

May 11th, 2025

MESSAGE RECAP

This week's message explored the story of Hagar from Genesis 16 – a woman who experienced deep rejection, loneliness, and fear. Despite being cast aside by Abraham and Sarah, Hagar encounters the “Angel of the Lord” (possibly a pre-incarnate appearance of Christ) who assures her she is seen and heard by God. This moment changes Hagar, and she calls him El Roi, “the God who sees me.” God knows your story, your pain, and your prayers. In a world battling loneliness and disconnection, we're invited to reframe our experiences – not as people forgiven, but as people loved, heard, and seen by a compassionate God.

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. After listening to the message, what stood out to you?
2. What's a time when you felt really seen or heard by someone? (Stay Positive)
3. Read Genesis 16:1-6. What do you notice about the motivation and decisions of Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar? How do you see pain and rejection playing out in this situation?
4. Read Genesis 16:7-13. Why is it significant that God seeks Hagar in the wilderness? What does her naming “El Roi” (The God who sees me) tell you about her experience? (Psalms 34:4 and Psalm 56:8)
5. In the sermon, we said, “You cannot control what happens to you, but you can control how you frame it.” How could that principle work in your life?
6. The message pointed out that loneliness is on the rise due to things like technology, busyness, and lack of family connection. Which of these challenges resonates most with you? What changes might help?
7. How might God be calling you to see others more clearly this week?

End your group time in prayer.