

# Genesis 16

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## SERMON NOTES

### Genesis 16

Where did you come from and where are you going?

1. Sometimes we mistakenly think God's delays are a sign we should take over, or at least help God out a bit.
2. Sometimes God removes every means but the miraculous before He fulfills His promises.
3. Just because something seems reasonable and expedient, is permissible by law and acceptable to our culture, it may still run contrary to the will of God.
4. We should always test our own thoughts and the counsel of others against the Will of God as revealed in the Word of God.
5. Hagar reminds us that wherever we go, we can never wander so far away as to be out of reach of the God who finds, speaks, sees and hears.
6. The God who sees and hears asked these two questions:
  - Where have you come from?
  - Where are you going?

**God's delays are not God's denials. God has a perfect time for His purposes to be accomplished and if we knew everything God knows, His timing might make more sense to us.**

*"Miracles are a retelling in small letters of the very same story which is written across the whole world in letters too large for some of us to see."*

- C.S. Lewis

*"Anxiety is only the context for sin, not its cause. Our base problem is unbelief. Failing to trust the infinite God, we live anxiously, restlessly, always trying to secure and extend ourselves with finite goods that can't take the weight we put on them."*

- Cornelius Plantinga, *Not The Way It's Supposed to Be*

*“In a manipulative consumerist culture, far from being the architects of our own destiny, maybe the idea of inventing ourselves is simply something else that we have been sold, and the real driver is not the individual at all? The result is an increasing sense of fragmentation and instability of the self.”*

- Glynn Harrison, *The Modern Crisis of Identity*

*“Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the one who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference.”*

- Max Lucado