

A Word from Kathy

We say goodbye this week to our dear friend and example Sarah. As I read this chapter I feel a bit of mourning myself. Sarah has served as a wonderful example to me. Now I must stand as an example to others.

Pray and ask God to open your eyes to all he has to teach you in Genesis 23.

Observation

1. Before we get into the chapter let's do a bit of review. What did Sarah's name mean?
2. Where was she born? Gen. 11:27-29
3. Who was her father? Gen. 20:12
4. Who did she marry Gen. 11:27-29
5. What was her greatest need, her heart's desire? What did she long to have? Gen. 11:30
6. Whose child did she help bring up?
7. What did we see her do over and over as the wife of a man with great herds?
8. What do you know about her physical appearance?
9. What does 1 Peter 3:1-6 say about her inner beauty?
10. Look up Hebrews 11:11, what do you see about her relationship with God?
11. What experience taught her that God is faithfully watching over her at all times and all places?
Gen. 12:10-20 and Gen. 20
12. Sarah wanted something so badly that at one point she suggested her husband to do something that would forever change their lives and the lives of many others, what was she trying to do?
13. Do you think she thought things through?

14. Do you think she prayed about it?
15. How did her plan work out? Gen. 16
16. What was her response when she realized that this was not a good idea?
17. Sarah overheard a conversation concerning her as she listened at the door of the tent. What did she hear and what was her response?
18. What was the crowning moment of her life and a time of great happiness? Gen. 21
19. What did she name her son? Why? Gen. 17:19
20. Who was like a thorn to her? Who did she feel the need to be separated from in order to enjoy peace? Gen. 21:8-10
21. How old was Sarah when she gave birth?
22. How old was Sarah when she died?
23. Where was Sarah living when died?
24. What are some of Sarah's character qualities that you have observed as you have been studying her these past few weeks?
25. What kind of help-meet do you believe Sarah was to Abraham?
26. Do you think she agreed with Abraham all the time?
27. How do you think she handled it if she did not agree with her husband?
28. Was her life one of ease and luxury? (you may have to consider several facts to answer this)
29. What type of dwelling did she live in at least for the majority of her life? Heb. 11:9

30. The apostle Paul used Sarah as an example when he was teaching the Galatians.
Use Gal. 4:21-31 and make a list of all you learn about these women from the text.
- | | |
|-------|--------------------------|
| Sarah | It is a picture of what? |
| Hagar | It is a picture of what? |
31. In Gen. 23:3-20 we see Abraham meeting with the Hittite men. What did he ask them to sell him?
32. Abraham knew that this was the process for purchasing something, one began the bargaining. Even though it may sound like Ephron would love to just give the land to Abraham, what did he let slip while they were talking?
33. One of the commentaries said this was an unusually high price for such a piece of land. Ephron may have thought Abraham would never go for that price but what did Abraham say?
34. What did Abraham do with the property?

Interpretation

35. Sarah lived 127 years and then she died. Why do you suppose God wants us to know how long people lived in the days of the Old Testament?
36. What is one thing that all people share? Heb. 9:27

Application

37. Satan lied to Sarah similar to the lie he told Eve; God's holding out on you. Has Satan ever tried to tell you this same lie?
38. Are there things you have been longing for, praying about, begging God to do and yet it has not happened yet? How are you handling it?
39. What is God teaching you through the wait?
40. What is God's plan for your life? Jer.29:11