

## ***A Weaning Party and a Parting of Ways*** ***Genesis 21:1-21***

### ***God's promise fulfilled, followed by a big celebration. 1-8***

- The focus in verses 1,2 is on God fulfilling His promise.
- Abraham obeys by naming & circumcising Isaac, 17:19,23.
- Sarah's laughter (meaning of Isaac's name) recalls 18:12.
- Isaac is weaned around 3 yrs. of age. Ishmael = 16, 17:25.

### ***Sarah's perceived threat leads to a family torn apart. 9-13***

- Ishmael's mocking/laughing at Isaac is seen as a future threat by Sarah. See Gal. 4:28,29 for Paul's take on this moment.
- Family conflict erupts, which is not the first time, 16:4-16.

### ***God's promise repeated during a rescue from death. 14-21***

- What seems so odd about how Abraham sends Hagar and Ishmael away? Any possible explanation for this?

- God responds to the cries of Ishmael and Hagar and then provides for them. Recall Ishmael's name =  
Note repetition of God's promise about Ishmael, 16:10, 17:20, 21:13,18 and recall God's prediction in 16:12.

*In Rom. 9:6-9 Paul argues God has kept His promise to the Patriarchs through Isaac's descendants; and in Gal. 4:21-31 he affirms our spiritual connection is to Isaac through Sarah.*

