

El Roi
Genesis 16**Taking it Home:**

1. Is there a distress, disappointment, or hidden burden in your life that you need to bring honestly before God? How might the truth of El Roi change the way you carry it?
2. Who might God be inviting you to notice this week? What specific action could communicate, “I see you, and you matter”?

Prayer Concerns:**Hagar’s Story**

El Roi means: _____ or _____

The God Who Sees

1. God’s _____ knows no _____
2. God _____ our _____
3. God _____ when no one else _____
4. God _____ the _____

Learning to see

1. _____ people in _____
2. Treat everyone with _____
3. Care with _____

Personal Study/Growth Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started:

1. Are you a person who wears your emotions on your sleeve or keeps them close to the vest?

Digging Deeper:

Read Genesis 16

1. Describe the relationship between Abram, Sarai, and Hagar. How would a child of Hagar's benefit Abram and Sarai? How was Hagar treated after she became pregnant?
2. What emotions might Hagar have been experiencing as she was running away from Abram and Sarai? What details demonstrate Hagar's vulnerability? Why is it significant that God chose to meet her personally?
3. Genesis 16:7 says, "The angel of the LORD found Hagar." What does the word 'found' reveal about God's initiative and grace? When and how did God 'find' you?

4. Compare the names Ishmael, meaning "God hears," and El Roi, "the God who sees." What do these names teach us about how God responds to human suffering? Read Psalm 10:14, 17–18 and Psalm 56:1-9. How do these passages add to our understanding?
5. Who are the people our culture—or even the church—can easily overlook, label, or treat merely according to what they can provide? Read Matthew 9:35-38. How are the actions of Jesus instructive as we meet people who are defeated?
6. Of the sermon's three practical responses—notice people in distress, treat everyone with dignity, and care with tender compassion—which one do you most need to grow in?
7. Pray as a group, asking the Lord to increase your compassion for those who have been overlooked.