

MARCH 31/ APR. 1 ; 2007  
KINGDOMS IN CONFLICT:  
KINGDOM'S DIVIDE



TO GET YOU TALKING:

1. Share with the group what your name(s) mean. If you ever had a nickname, tell the group that also.
2. What position were you in your family? First born, only child, etc. Were you ever envious of other siblings and their position?
3. When you are not seeing God fulfilling a promise given to you do you:
  - Take things into your own hands?
  - Lose faith in God?
  - Doubt the promise given to you?

TO GET YOU THINKING:

***Have each person silently read Genesis Chapters 16 and 21 and then have someone read aloud Galatians 4:21-31***

1. *God promises to make nations from both of Abraham's sons.*
  - What are the similarities of these two promises?
  - what are the differences?
2. Can you see evidence of these promises fulfilled in today's world?

3. *Sarai's reaction to Hagar after she gave birth to Ishmael was resentment, even though it was Sarai's plan. Tell about a time when you "played God" and took matters into your own hands. What was the end result?*
4. *Hagar gave God the name "God sees" because of her two interactions with him. Ishmael's name means "God hears".*
  - What name would you give to God as you recall a time when you have cried out to him in distress?
5. What do you imagine the relationship between Isaac and Ishmael was like? (*note: they were about 14 years apart in age*).
6. *Two times God tells Abraham to listen to his wife's advice. From what you learned in the series on men and women, what could be the reason for encouraging a husband to listen to his wife?*

DOING LIFE TOGETHER:

1. Confess any resentment in your heart for the Arab nations and Muslim people. Ask God to heal your heart of any racism or false assumptions.
2. Take time to pray that God would bring people of Muslim faith into each group members' life. Ask that God would give each of you a renewed love and understanding of Muslims.
3. This week, be aware of how media portrays Muslims in Canada and throughout the world.

SERMON OUTLINE  
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**ISLAM- Overview and Definitions**

**ISLAM:** means Submission

**ALLAH:** "the God."

**QURAN:** Book of law. Written in Arabic. 650 A. D.

**MUHAMMAD:** The prophet of Islam. Born 570 A.D.  
City of Mecca.

He claimed to receive revelations from Allah through the angel Gabriel, 610 years after the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

He could neither read nor write, and was entirely uneducated. He also never claimed to be God.

**FAST FACTS:**

- **MAIN ISLAMIC SECTS-**  
Sunnis- Claim to be (90%)  
Shiites- Claim to be (10%)
- **1.3 billion Muslims worldwide.**
- **Islam is the driving force behind >50 Nations**
- **35 nations boast a population of over 85% Muslim.**
- **Only 2 million Muslims in all of North America.**

**ISLAM'S TIE TO ISHMAEL.**

**The Conflict Begins-**He slept with Hagar, and she conceived.

When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress. Then Sarai said to Abram, "You are responsible for the wrong

I am suffering. I put my servant in your arms, and now that she knows she is pregnant, she despises me. May the LORD judge between you and me." Gen. 16:4-5

<sup>12</sup>He shall be a wild donkey of a man,  
his hand against everyone  
and everyone's hand against him,  
and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen."

**The Conflict Deepens-**<sup>9</sup>But Sarah saw that the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham was mocking, <sup>10</sup>and she said to Abraham, "Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac."

**The Covenant Given-**<sup>18</sup>And Abraham said to God, "If only Ishmael might live under your blessing!"<sup>19</sup>Then God said, "Yes, but your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him."<sup>20</sup>And as for Ishmael, I have heard you: I will surely bless him; I will make him fruitful and will greatly increase his numbers. He will be the father of twelve rulers, and I will make him into a great nation.<sup>21</sup>But my covenant I will establish with Isaac,

**The Conflict Divides-**<sup>18</sup>His descendants settled in the area from Havilah to Shur, near the border of Egypt, as you go toward Asshur. And they lived in hostility toward<sup>f</sup> all their brothers. **Gen. 18:25**

Al-Saffat 37:104-112

"God intervenes to save Abraham and Ismail."

v. 104 "We called him: O' Abraham."

v. 105 "You have believed the dream. We thus reward the righteous.

v. 106 "That was an exacting test indeed.

v. 107 "We ransomed (Ismail) by substituting an animal sacrifice.

v. 108 "And we preserved his history for subsequent generations.

v. 112 "Then we gave him the good news about the birth of Isaac, to be one of the righteous prophets.

There is no comparison between the Quran and the Bible.

There is no comparison between Allah and Yahweh.