

THE LIFE OF FAITH

OWNING YOUR JOURNEY

Winners and Losers

Genesis 21:1-21

When God's promise arrives:

There is celebration for the begotten.

God always keeps His word.

God always takes His time.

There is protection for the forgotten.

Protecting the covenant.

Protecting the outcast.

We never lose when we wait on God's promises.

Download "Winners and Losers," 11th in the *Life of Faith* series (5/6/12) free, or share it via email, Facebook or Twitter at hbc.com/media. You may also purchase a CD at the Resource Center in the East Lobby.

My Application

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

- 1) Trace the development of the promise of a son from beginning to end (Genesis 12-21). Note the delay. What does the waiting do to a person?
- 2) Have you ever waited a long time for God to do something for you? Describe your emotions while waiting. What was the outcome?
- 3) How does the celebration of the birth of Isaac become the beginning of pain for Ishmael? Can God's blessing to one person actually seem like the demise of another?
- 4) God renews His promise to Hagar in the wilderness. What does this teach us about God? Does God only work in the "success stories" of life?

Memory Verse

Genesis 18:14

"Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year and Sarah will have a son."