

Know God Deeply_Season 6_Episode 03_El Roi

[00:00:00] **Adam:** Welcome to Know God Deeply with Precept, where we discuss how to dig deeper into the Bible and discover God's truth for ourselves because when we know God more deeply through His Word, we live differently. Let's dig deep.

You are listening to the Know God Deeply podcast. It's Adam here. Today, I am joined by Corina, Christina, and David. How's everybody doing today? Fantastic.

[00:00:37] **Christina:** Doing well. Doing good.

[00:00:38] **Adam:** Wonderful. I think this is a first, and if you're listening and not watching the video of our podcast, you wouldn't realize this, but all four of us are wearing glasses, and I think it's the first time we've done an episode where all of us are wearing glasses.

So my question is are you all as blind as a bat as I am? And when did you start wearing [00:01:00] glasses?

[00:01:00] **Corina:** Yeah, I can't see s- a stop sign, like if I'm driving. I, I, I can't see far away at all, so I'm blind that way. And I don't know how old I was. I feel like I was probably born wearing glasses. Although I did go through a phase in college where I would only wear them for class, so I just could not see anyone as I walked around campus. Mm. But that, that wasn't smart for obvious reasons, so.

[00:01:21] **Adam:** Yes. I get that, yeah. I was... I mostly wear contacts, but through high school I wore glasses. I think eighth grade was when I started, so, you know, most awkward time, early teenage years- Perfect timing

that's when I get glasses. Yeah.

[00:01:35] **Christina:** Yeah. Yes. Yeah, I think I started in elementary school. They did one of those eye exams in the school gymnasium, and I was like- Wow ... "Oh, I cannot see." So- Hmm ... that's when we learned, and I still cannot see.

[00:01:50] **Adam:** Well, when- And then you started nailing three-pointers because now I can see, so you're- There you go

yeah.

[00:01:55] **Christina:** And then I became an athlete.

[00:01:58] **David:** Well, I lost my eyesight when I lost my [00:02:00] hair, so I'm new to the game.

[00:02:02] **Adam:** Okay.

[00:02:04] **David:** Wow.

[00:02:05] **Adam:** That's so many.

[00:02:05] **David:** So, my, mine are for readers, so I just need to s- Yeah ... I can see great except for up close.

[00:02:10] **Adam:** So it's interesting that we are all wearing glasses today because we are talking about seeing, and we're talking about a God who sees.

So, just to, to let you know, yes in this season of the Know God Deeply podcast, we're discovering the names of God. Well, at least a few of them, right? There are many, many names and titles of God, and it would take us a very long time to go through them all. So we're, we're covering a select few in this season of the podcast.

Today, we're going to just discuss the name El Roi, which means the God who sees me. Now, the El in El Roi represents another one of God's names, Elohim, and that emphasizes his divinity as creator, and we're gonna see that same thing again next week. But for right now, we're gonna focus on El [00:03:00] Roi and that's found in Genesis chapter 16.

So let's provide a little context first. Leading up to our passage today in Genesis 16, God has promised Abraham many descendants, but his wife, Sarah, is past her childbearing years, and so she's decided to take things into her own hands and suggest- ... to Abraham that they can bear children through their servant, Hagar.

So let's read Hagar's story today and discover this name of God. So let's go to Genesis 16. I'll read for us, and then we can discuss, all right? "Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. She had a female Egyptian servant whose name was Hagar. And Sarai said to Abram, 'Behold, now the Lord has prevented me from bearing children.

Go in to my servant. It may be that I shall obtain children by her.' And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. So after Abram [00:04:00] had lived 10 years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife." And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived.

And when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress. And Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done to me be on you. I gave my servant to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the Lord judge between you and me." But Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your servant is in your power.

Do to her as you please." Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her. The angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. And he said, "Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going?" She said, "I am [00:05:00] fleeing from my mistress Sarai."

The angel of the Lord said to her, "Return to your mistress and submit to her." The angel of the Lord also said to her, "I will surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude." And the angel of the Lord said to her, "Behold, you are pregnant and shall bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael, because the Lord has listened to your affliction.

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." So she called the name of the Lord who spoke to her, "You are a God of seeing." For she said, "Truly here I have seen him who looks after me." Therefore the well was called Beer Lahai Roi.

It lies between Kadesh and Bered. And Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called the name of his son, [00:06:00] whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.

Okay, so we're precept folks. We like to mark keywords. We like to, to make lists. We are trying to identify themes and patterns in scripture. So looking at where you marked Hagar, how would you describe Hagar's plight?

[00:06:26] **Corina:** Yeah, she's in a tough situation. I mean, she's, she's a servant which doesn't necessarily mean that she's treated really poorly like a slave.

I think I read somewhere that she's probably on par with Eliezer who Abraham was ready to make his heir. So, you know, she's a bit respected when it comes to servanthood in general, but she's essentially property being passed around. Mm. Right? Sar- Sarai is going according to the customs of the day and is saying, "Hey, you know, I own this woman, and if I give her to [00:07:00] you, then the children that you guys have I'll own as well."

And so they're passing Hagar over to Abraham as property, and she doesn't get a choice in that, and her child is gonna be owned by these people as well. And so you could see why she would have contempt. And I looked up that word contempt, and, and it can be translated to despise or to esteem lightly.

It's the same word that we see translated curse in Genesis 12:3. And so it's a really strong word for what Hagar feels towards Sarai once she realizes she's pregnant. But you could see why, right? Given the setup that, that I've just said. You know, she's been given away and now they're trying to take her baby as well.

And then she's dealt with so harshly by Sarai that she, she thinks it's better to run back to Egypt that's the direction she's headed, than to stay. So it's not just that Sarai was making a couple, you know, mean comments. I mean, she was abusing her to the point that she [00:08:00] thought, "It's safer for me, better for me, to go back to Egypt-" Mm.

a single pregnant woman." Yeah, so she's in, she's in a bad way. Mm.

[00:08:09] **Adam:** Ugh. Yeah. Yeah, that's a, that's a good call-out there that that the situation was so bad that a single pregnant woman would try to make that journey. I didn't even really consider that aspect, so that's great.

[00:08:22] **Christina:** Yeah, something that stood out to me as I was marking Hagar is that just like you said, Corina Abram and Sarai really don't ever even speak her name, right?

We know her name because Moses tells us in, in verse 1 that her name is Hagar, but when they're talking about her, it really is just like they're talking about property. Like-

[00:08:41] **Corina:** Mm.

[00:08:41] **Christina:** Wow ... what can she do for us? What is her usefulness to us? And then we don't hear anyone say her name until verse 8 when the angel of the Lord comes to her and, and calls her by her name.

[00:08:52] **David:** Yeah, there's a, um I mean, I'm looking at verse four. When she, Hagar, saw that she had [00:09:00] conceived-

...

[00:09:00] **David:** She, Hagar, looked with contempt on her mistress, Sarah. So there's, it's not just Sarah towards Hagar, it's Hagar towards Sarah. So there's, there's immediate strife between these two, and-

[00:09:12] **Corina:** Yes ...

[00:09:13] **David:** all we have to do is follow out the history.

The descendants of Ishmael are gonna end u- end up being the Arabs, and the descendants of Isaac are gonna end up being the Hebrews, and there is gonna be centuries and centuries of turmoil between them. So it is a very, it's a, it's a beginning that starts off bad that just gets continues to get worse and worse we go.

So it is a, it is a tragedy. And it is a interesting aspect of, of Hagar is in a sense she is try- Sarah's trying to use Hagar to get God's will done-

[00:09:49] **Christina:** Yeah ...

[00:09:49] **David:** and ends up just doing the opposite. Yeah.

[00:09:51] **Christina:** Yeah.

[00:09:52] **Adam:** Yeah. Okay, so why does Hagar choose the name El Roi, God Who Sees Me?

[00:09:57] **Christina:** I think really simply she felt [00:10:00] unseen by everyone else, right?

We talk about how she definitely didn't feel seen by Abram and Sarai. She, she felt like something to be used to achieve what they wanted to achieve. Yeah, and just alone in the wilderness, pregnant. Surely she, she felt like she was alone. She felt completely unseen, and for God, for the angel of the Lord to come and meet her there and see her, right?

I, I read in a commentary that this is the first time that the angel of the Lord appears to anybody, right? He didn't appear to Abram or Noah or, or Enoch or a- anyone else. This is the first time the angel of the Lord comes and appears to anybody and, and He chooses Hagar. He chooses a, a single mother out in the wilderness an Egyptian, and, and that's who He chooses to, to meet and to see and to know in this moment.

[00:10:52] **David:** Okay. It's the sa- it's the, we have the same idea here today, is, you know, when we want to make sure that we sympathize, we understand, [00:11:00] we say, "I see you."

[00:11:01] **Corina:** Hmm.

[00:11:01] **David:** Like, I, I'm aware, but it's not just an awareness of, "Yeah, there, there you are." Like, I'm... It's more of I'm with you when I say I see you. You know, it's now I've got you in my sights, and then you're now in my protection and under my provision.

[00:11:47] **Corina:** And she's on the run and she's pregnant. She is the lowest person on the totem pole. Yeah. And for the angel of the Lord himself to choose her as the first person that he speaks [00:12:00] to directly and reveals himself to, like Christina was saying, is impactful. I mean, beyond impactful, it says something about God, that God cares about the least of these.

It's not just something he tells us to do, it's something he does. He notices the person not making a scene, the person alone in the desert. He sees all of us, and he cares.

[00:12:21] **Adam:** Hmm. That's cool. Yeah. That's so good So, we have likely not been in a situation quite as extreme or as dire as Hagar's situation here, but can we relate to this story and how Hagar was feeling in it?

[00:12:41] **Corina:** Yeah. I, I think something that you kind of pointed out, David, or started to point out, is we have to be careful to note that Hagar's sin preceded Sarai's when it came to their ... Well, not preceded, that's, that's not right, but contributed, right? Mm. Sarai sinned [00:13:00] against Hagar by treating her as property, right?

Even though it was allowed, it was a custom of the day, we could say that, that it was not pleasing to God. And it certainly wasn't pleasing to God for Sarai to preempt his plan and take matters into her own hands. So no matter how you slice it, Sarai starts this ball rolling by treating Hagar as a possession, but then Hagar adds to the situation, right?

That word, again, contempt, is strong. She's, she's not just a little sad- ... a little worn down, a little upset. All understandable of course, if she was. But she's looking proudly at her mistress. She's now elevated to a wife status. She's no longer a servant in the same way, so now she, even though she's a secondary wife, she's a wife and she's pregnant.

And Sarai's not.

And so there is a bit of sin on her part as she looks with contempt on her mistress, and that starts all this going of Sarai's gonna abuse her so badly that she's, she's wanting to just go back to Egypt. And so no, I cannot [00:14:00] relate to her situation really, it closely at all.

But I can relate to sinning and causing a mess for myself. I can relate to that. You know, I've experienced that plenty of times. And I did read in one commentary that there's a significant wordplay in this chapter. And so in the Hebrew, the words for misery or for her her affliction- the word for submit, submit to her is what the angel of the Lord's gonna tell her, and the word for hear in Ishmael's name are all connected in the Hebrew.

[00:14:31] **Christina:** Hmm.

[00:14:32] **Corina:** Hmm. And so you've got this intentional wordplay of Sarai, I mean, Hagar is afflicted, and she needs to submit to the affliction, and God hears her affliction, right?

And so there's this picture of repentance that all of us are called to when we are caught in sin. Her story's not over just because she played a role in her suffering, right? The Lord finds her and, and tells her, "Repent. Submit. Go back [00:15:00] to your mistress- ... and here's what I'm gonna do for you." And

so yeah, I can relate to God's invitation to me when I am in sin to just come home.

To just go back to doing what he's called me to do and not stay in the wilderness and just allow him to take me into, to greener pastures, and I think that's what we see him promise Hagar here.

[00:15:19] **Adam:** Yeah, and David brought out a little earlier about w- we know how, how this story develops from, from reading scripture.

We know that eventually Abraham and Sarah have Isaac, and then from Isaac comes Jacob, and then through Jacob is the, the nation of Israel. And, and so, we s- we see that kind of timeline and we think, "Okay, here's where our focus should be, over here on this, this side with God's people and the, and how he's working."

But I think this, this story, as we've, we've been discussing, really shows God's care for, for all mankind particularly for Hagar in, in this point. And I think we need to be [00:16:00] careful as believers and as human beings not to, not to get too much into the... And I'm gonna use a phrase that I feel like I'm too old to use because it's more of a, a more current culture phrase, but main character energy.

This idea- Yeah ... that life is all about me and everyone else is just a side character. Oh. Or if you wanna get into the video game lingo, they're just NPCs. They're non-playable characters. They're just part of the background.

[00:16:28] **Corina:** That one went over my head.

[00:16:29] **Adam:** Yeah. Oh, you don't know... Yeah, you don't know that one.

Okay. Well, I feel a little bit redeemed then by using some of this language, so, but yeah, we can, we can do that as believers, right? When we read scripture, we're like, we identify with the hero. We identify with the w- with the one that that God chooses or the one that's the main character or focus of, of the text and, but life is n- not that way, right?

We're not designed to have the world revolving around us. And so when we [00:17:00] try to relate or identify with these characters that seem to be on, maybe on the margins- ... see how much care that God- ... shows them, then man, isn't that an example for us to try to follow in our own lives of, okay, what can we learn from those people, and also how do we respond to those people in our lives?

[00:17:20] **David:** Yeah. You know what, what hit me, what seems to be missing, and it's not a mistake, but what seems to be missing in this story is Abram Like, he's just not in this story, and except for the, you know, the last sentence, and he was a father at 86. And the next time we hear about Abram, the next chapter, he's 99.

So it's, there is this-

[00:17:40] **Corina:** Yeah ...

[00:17:40] **David:** abs- it's almost, almost like the scene in the garden with Adam and Eve, and Eve is, is, is taking the bite. She's taking the fruit. She's giving into the temptation, and Adam is just checked out somehow. He's just not... and so there's this real, to me, there's this real sense of not dereliction of [00:18:00] duty as much as he is not being who he should be.

[00:18:04] **Corina:** Hmm.

[00:18:05] **David:** He- Wow ... he did not need to sleep with Hagar. He should have said, "No, this is not the right path." He should have kept his wife from abusing, 'cause it looks like it's abuse. It's when, when you read in verse six, Sarah dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her. This is not just some snide comments.

There is probably some serious abuse going on here, and he seems to be absent. So there's this, there's this whole other story of Abram is not El-roien. He's not roying. He's not seeing. He's not aware.

[00:18:41] **Christina:** Yeah.

[00:18:41] **David:** He's blind, you know, and yet even in that circumstance, and I can imagine Hagar doesn't have...

We gotta be, we gotta understand this is a different culture, so it's not like Hagar and, and Abram are in love, and this is a, a romantic thing. This is a, a [00:19:00] utilitarian service that she's offering him, and he's not seeing her for a valid image-bearer of God. You know, for heaven's sakes, the mother of his child.

He's not seeing her, and yet in this story, God is. God is seeing her. God is Elroi. He is not blind. He is not obscured. He's not pushed away or distracted. He knows what's going on in this in this story.

[00:19:31] **Adam:** Yeah, and that's highlighted in what you're saying, David, in verse six where Abram says, "Behold, your servant is in your power.

Do to her as you please." Like, like, he just kinda checks out, right? Yeah. Horrible ... and, and he had to have witnessed some of the interaction, right? I mean, you would think he would have seen that, and yet he still just kinda seems to wash his hands of it. Turns

[00:19:50] **Corina:** a blind eye.

[00:19:51] **Adam:** Yeah. Yeah. Right.

All right, so how does this name of God and the truth it carries impact our own suffering?[00:20:00]

[00:20:00] **Corina:** Yeah, I mean, I was thinking of that, I forgot to look up where it is, but I think it's 2 Chronicles that, "The eyes of the Lord roam to and fro throughout the earth that he may strongly support those whose hearts are completely his."

Wherever that verse is. I, I, you know, it pictures God looking around actively to strongly support people.

And in this passage we see that Hagar is I- it's interesting, you know, she's going away from her mistress, and when she's naming God, she's, she's calling the name of the Lord who spoke to her. So this is a, this is a, a name she knows, the Lord. She's calling him a new name, you are a God of seeing. And so in her time with Abram and Sarai, she's learned something about this covenant God.

She's learned something about Yahweh, and now she's learning something new, that He cares about her. And so I think of you know, my own life and, and my own suffering, and I think that that [00:21:00] is a lesson that I learn again and again. I don't have trouble believing that He is the Lord, and it seems Hagar doesn't either.

Hagar's not, "Oh my gosh, who are you?" You know, she's familiar with this God. She knows of Him. We don't have trouble believing sometimes that God is who He says He is and able to alleviate our suffering. We have trouble believing that He will, that He cares enough to do so. And I think what Hagar discovers is, you're not just a God who can, you're a God who wants to-

Meet me where I am, and it's a light thing for you to do this thing that you're promising. The power isn't in question. The passion perhaps was. Did God have true passion for me, true compassion on me? And you can think of the disciples in, in the Gospels when Jesus is taking a nap in the boat, and they ask Him that question that's so revealing what they ask Him.

They say, "Don't you care that we're perishing?" Mm. It's not, "Can you do anything about this?" It's, [00:22:00] "Don't you care-

"...

[00:22:00] **Corina:** About this?" And I think that's the impact that we see here about God as a God who sees, is He's not just looking. He is looking with compassion. He is looking with the goal of strongly supporting.

He is looking with the intention of stepping into our story and showing us that He sees us. He looks after us. I love that in verse 13. He's, He's looking after, and that's- ... a good pun. But you know, He's looking after us, taking care of us hemming us in. So-

[00:22:29] **David:** Mm.

[00:22:29] **Corina:** Yeah, it's usually important to, to us when we're, we're in dire straits.

Yeah. That's so comforting, Corina. I, I had a similar

[00:22:36] **Christina:** thought. Verse, verse 13 in this translation translates El Roi to, "You are a God of seeing." But there's, there's a footnote that says, "Or you are a God who sees me." And I, I had the thought of, do I believe that God is a God of seeing? Yes, absolutely.

Like, I believe that God sees everyone.

Do I believe that God is a God who sees me in my deepest pain, in [00:23:00] my deepest suffering? Mm. And that is just a whole new layer and level to the question for me of, okay, when I feel unseen, when I feel alone, when I am in the depths of challenge and struggle and suffering, do I believe that God can meet me here?

That he, what you're saying, Corina, cares enough to come to me here? A- a- and the answer is yes. But, but whether our hearts can truly believe that is I

think really indicative of how we move through suffering- Hmm ... is if we believe that about God or not.

[00:23:36] **Adam:** Hmm. Yeah, and it, it reminds me when I'm considering how this name carries impact for me, and I, I know I shared with you all a while back about a random time when I was struggling through some things and went for a drive, and just kind of stumbled across a waterfall, and it felt like a real God moment, like- just a [00:24:00] time to commune with him and this discovery of something that was there and was beautiful. And and so I felt like that was kind of a circumstance that God had worked through. And so I think, I think he can show that he sees us in, in circumstances. I think he can do it through people when, when someone just shares that encouraging word or, or notices your suffering and is there to, to care for you.

And then obviously, he shows it through his word and by his spirit when-- And I think we've all realized this at, at times where we've read scripture and something just jumps off the page at us, like, and speaks right to our hearts and what we're going through. And so he's so caring in the multifaceted ways that he does see what we're going through and ministers to us in those ways.

[00:24:46] **David:** Hmm. That's so good.

[00:24:49] **Christina:** Amen

[00:24:50] **Adam:** All right That's all I

[00:24:51] **Christina:** got

[00:24:51] **Adam:** All right. That's good. So what could it look like for us to incorporate this name, El Roi, [00:25:00] into our relationship with God?

[00:25:02] **David:** What about what about having an invitation? It's, it's one thing to know the facts. It's one thing to know the, the abilities, the capacity the awareness, but there's another, another layer perhaps to our relationship when we invite him to look, we invite him to see.

Tim Keller used to say "Give the Lord a hunting license in your life. ... Let him come look and see." And, a- and that, I know that feels like more like conviction or looking for something wrong. Mm. But I do think it is a, a, Just on the other side of what you're saying, Christina, it's, it's I- sometimes I don't feel seen.

Sometimes I feel like he- I'm not necessary for him to look at because he's got more important things, but I think there's a, an aspect of this text where we can say, "Come look, Lord. Come, come please see me in my, in my pain and my circumstances and my challenges." [00:26:00]

[00:26:00] **Corina:** Yeah, I mean, it's the psalmist in Psalm 139, right?

He's just got done verse upon verse upon verse saying, "You saw me when I was in the womb. You know when I get up. You know when I go sleep. You see me during the day, and would you search me?" And when you think about that, you're like, "He just said he's watching you all the time."

[00:26:17] **David:** Right. Yeah

[00:26:18] **Corina:** You know? And the psalmist is like, "Yeah, but keep looking."

... Keep, keep your eyes on me, and he's not embarrassed to say that. Doesn't feel like too much to ask of God. And yeah, I, I love what Hagar says, that, "I've seen him who looks after me." The note in my study Bible, our Precept study Bible says the Hebrew can be, "Have I really seen him here who sees me?"

Or, "Would I have looked here for the one who sees me? Would I have looked?" And so there's there's both, right? There's this realization that, man, God is looking and, and yeah, we can invite him to keep looking, and then there's the realization that we need to look, too. We need to open our eyes, or rather have our eyes open to [00:27:00] the presence of God in our lives.

And I think for me, that's how I want to incorporate this name more, is just recognizing that God is here already. That God is in the desert, and he is the well and he is near. And so having my eyes opened, I think, just to see the God who sees me is, is something I'm working on, just noticing and slowing down and paying attention.

[00:27:24] **Christina:** Yeah. What, what I hear you saying is almost have this expectancy in our suffering, that- Mm ... that God is gonna meet us here, that God is gonna see us. And I think it is so my tendency- in my suffering to want to hide, to hide from everyone, not just God. But it's like I don't want to deal with this. I don't wanna have to talk this out with anybody.

Yeah, when I was reflecting on this passage and I think about moments of feeling unseen, the, the one that just jumps out in my mind is postpartum, and it's just-

[00:27:54] **Adam:** Mm. -

[00:27:54] **Christina:** rough.

[00:27:55] **Adam:** Yeah.

[00:27:55] **Christina:** For all my sisters- I bet ... out there who have done it. And, and I just remember, you know, my [00:28:00] sweet, sweet husband, there's no one closer to me on this earth, and he was just like, "I just wanna know how you feel.

Like, can you help me?" And I was like, "I don't want to talk about it, you know?" "I don't wanna explain this

[00:28:11] **Corina:** to you. Like, I just wanna sit here and cry." And, and there is something

[00:28:16] **Christina:** so comforting about- ... knowing that God just knows. That God just sees, that you don't have to explain a word to Him, and it's just, oh, He, He gets it.

He sees you. He knows exactly what you're going through and exactly what you need. And yeah, I love what you're both saying about just being expectant of that, just inviting Him to, "Okay, I, I believe this of you. Like, come, come and see me, and do what only You can do."

[00:28:41] **Corina:** Yeah, I mean, and He has conversation with us, right?

I think something I, I just noticed as you're talking, Christina, is He knows everything, and yet He, when we're ready, invites us also to, to vent if we want to do that. Right? He starts with Hagar, and says her name like you said. Mm. "Where have you come [00:29:00] from?" "And where are you going?"

[00:29:00] **Christina:** Yeah.

[00:29:01] **Corina:** And it's such a theme in scripture.

We see it in the garden. We see it so often where God steps in and asks a question He knows the answer to, to start the conversation and, and to see where you, you two's conversation goes- ... based on our responses and His leading. Yeah, I love that. Sorry, random thought.

[00:29:19] **Adam:** No, that's, that's great. I, I love this conversation.

And Christina, that analogy you used of your, your husband th- desiring to care for you and not knowing exactly how to do so, yeah, that's so beautiful because Hagar, you know, doesn't call God the God who fixes or the God who has- Yeah ... delivered me, even though He is capable of doing those things, and He, He is those things.

He is a deliverer. He is He does, He is sovereign over all things. But what seemed to impact her the most was she was acknowledged in her suffering. She was truly seen- ... and that was her big takeaway. And that's just, yeah, [00:30:00] that's beautiful, and what an encouragement for us when we're, no matter where we are in life, and like Corina was saying, whether we're l- lying down or rising up, what- whatever the circumstance, God sees us right where we are.

His eyes are not, unfortunately like our poor eyes that are compromised, His, His are not compromised. He can see clearly, and nothing is keeping Him from seeing us.

[00:30:24] **Corina:** Yeah. Yeah. That's good.

[00:30:26] **David:** Yeah. There's a good pro tip here for you. Being married almost 40 years, gentlemen- Listen to your wives. Don't try to fix them.

Just hold them when they're crying. Don't tell them what to do or tell them not to do. Just be quiet and listen. Hold them. That'll get you so far in your marriage.

[00:30:46] **Christina:** That's a good tip. Yeah.

[00:30:49] **David:** And daughters. When you have daughters, do the same thing with your daughters.

[00:30:52] **Christina:** I, I think we would be remiss not to, not to mention that, that a few chapters later, we're, we're gonna get k- a, a bit of an echo of, of this [00:31:00] scene too.

We're, we're gonna see Hagar go back to Sarai just as she was commanded by God. And she- ... is gonna birth Ishmael, and Sarai's gonna birsh- birth Isaac, just as God promised. ... And then Sarai is gonna see Ishmael smile, laugh, maybe in mockery, and she's gonna say, "Get out. I, I don't... I want you out of here."

And Abraham's gonna struggle with that. We see Abraham kind of, kind of in that a little bit more, but God's gonna say "Yeah, let, let her go. I got her." And, and we see this, this scene that breaks my heart every time of Hagar- ... in the wilderness with her baby. She's run out of food. She's run out of water.

And she puts the baby far away from her, 'cause she, it says she doesn't wanna to look upon his death. And, and God, again, he comes and he hears- ... he sees her, and he, he meets her there again. And, and he shows her this well of water. He takes care of her. He provides for her. And he's going to continue to, and, and it's just such an echo of, yeah, God does this for us again and again.

[00:31:57] **Adam:** It's beautiful. All [00:32:00] right, s- the so what of this passage, guys. We've we've come to this section of our episode. What are your personal takeaways from studying this passage?

[00:32:11] **Corina:** Yeah, I'm glad Christina brought that up. You know, it's hard to, I don't think we need to decide who, who was lower in status or suffering more, but it's almost like God yeah, echo is a beautiful word for it, ups, ups the ante, repeats himself, reaffirms his promises in that scene.

I think it's in 17, or when is it? Is it- Well, later in the- In the, in the book. Okay.

[00:32:37] **Christina:** Yeah.

[00:32:38] **Corina:** Yeah, God kind of does this this repeat, but this time with her son. Yes, he meets Hagar again, but he says to her twice, "I've heard the boy."

"

[00:32:47] **Corina:** I can hear him crying." He sees this single slave pregnant Brown woman crying, and he sees her child, who has nothing to offer at this stage, right?

Don't know if he's a baby or if he's... He might [00:33:00] be a, a, a little bit older, right? Because it's been some time at that point that Isaac is born. He's

maybe 10 or something. But yeah, it makes me think of Jesus saying, "Not a single sparrow falls to the ground apart from your Father knowing." And there's this, this idea that I have that, you know, God cries every time.

I think that would be an accurate thing to think about God, that not even the death of a sparrow escapes his notice or his, his compassion and his care. On The Message transl- well, The Message paraphrase Eugene Peterson puts Matthew 10 that way that when, when a sparrow falls to the ground, God cares about it and what happens to it even more than you do.

And so yeah, I think my, my takeaway is it doesn't matter how little or how, Yeah, it doesn't matter how little you think you are or our situation is, God sees it- ... and he cares deeply.

[00:33:53] **David:** Amen.

[00:33:55] **Adam:** Yeah, and I'm just reminded that, yeah, God, God isn't surprised [00:34:00] by the circumstances of, of life.

He s- he sees us right where we are, and it is a reminder of how we should see people, right? Yeah. We- we've talked about our poor eyesight several times in this episode. But it's like, Lord, I n- I need to see the people in my life through your eyes. And I think where that starts is understanding how God sees me.

And then that's gonna, that's gonna impact the way I see others. Yeah. Yeah. So that's my big takeaway.

[00:34:34] **David:** I love it. That's that... You got both ends of that one. Good job. Man, that's... Be like God. Trust God that God sees you, and be like God in seeing others. I, I love that. That's great, Adam. Yeah, I've got nothing to add.

Y'all, y'all nailed it.

[00:34:48] **Christina:** I would also like to ditto Adam. Yeah. That, that, that has been a prayer in my heart lately, Adam. You, you just nailed it. But it's been, "God, give me your eyes to see see my family, see, see the people that I'm [00:35:00] interacting with." And, and I love that you brought in, yeah, it starts with believing that God sees us experiencing that for ourselves to be able to, to, to give that away.

So ditto.

[00:35:10] **Adam:** Well, this has been a beautiful conversation. I love that we've had this focus on Hagar and on her experience with the Lord. Listeners we would, we would love to hear how the Lord has blessed you maybe through an example of scripture or how you have been seen by the Lord. We'd love for you to engage with us on our socials.

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[00:35:39] **Christina:** Have you been enjoying our series on the I Am statements of Jesus and want to go deeper? The Christian

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[00:36:17] **David:** All right, what you got Christina? All right. Come on.

[00:36:19] **Christina:** All right.

[00:36:21] **David:** Yeah. I want it. I feel like- I'm taking it. I don't care what it is.

[00:36:23] **Christina:** Take it. I think you might.

[00:36:26] **Adam:** What do you got?

[00:36:27] **Christina:** Okay, everyone. Take it or leave it, road trips.

[00:36:32] **Adam:** Hmm.

[00:36:32] **Christina:** In the car, hours and hours, quick gas station snacks, Buc-ees, you know the whole thing.

Corina, your thumb's downing me already? Let's hear it. Yeah,

[00:36:43] **Corina:** that gives me, it gives me little heart palpitations. No, even with just Jordan, we're not road trip people. My husband Jordan and I, before we had our baby, yeah, it's so long usually when you're taking a road trip to just driving [00:37:00] and sitting I don't know.

Not big fans.

[00:37:03] **David:** Yeah My wife has said if I weren't in ministry, I should be a truck driver, 'cause I can drive for hours and hours and hours, and I have. I have-

[00:37:15] **Christina:** Hmm ...

[00:37:15] **David:** I put at least 20,000 miles on my motorcycle every year. That's in addition to my car. So I've, I absolutely l- I love road trips, live for 'em.

Buc-ee's, not so much.

[00:37:29] **Christina:** Oh. I was expecting

[00:37:31] **David:** Kmart. I have been to a Buc-ee's, and I was overwhelmed. Yeah. If y'all don't know what Buc-ee's is if you're not from the South- The Gulf ... it is like a Walmart gas station- ... if you can imagine that.

[00:37:41] **Christina:** Oh, I'll call it that. It is the gas station of your dreams.

Of your dreams. Very nice bathrooms, but-

[00:37:48] **Adam:** Yes ...

[00:37:48] **Christina:** it's otherwise-

[00:37:50] **David:** That's true ... terrible chaos in every corner That you share with 5,000 people. Yes.

[00:37:52] **Adam:** Yeah. Beef jerky wall.

[00:37:55] **David:** That's true ...

[00:37:55] **Christina:** brin-

[00:37:56] **Adam:** brisket

[00:37:56] **Christina:** sandwiches

[00:37:59] **David:** And pajamas. Don't need pajamas there. Yes. Yeah. Yeah. Beware [00:38:00] on the brisket sandwiches. I bought two of them 'cause I was so hungry, and then I got the bill, and it was like 30 bucks.

I was like- Oh, yeah. Yeah ... "What in the world?"

[00:38:06] **Christina:** They're delicious.

[00:38:08] **Adam:** I'm gonna

[00:38:08] **David:** drop something. But I'm a ro- on a road trip, I'm all in, Christina.

[00:38:12] **Christina:** Adam, what about you?

[00:38:13] **Adam:** Yeah, yeah. I, I'm in as well. When I was a kid, my family went... We grew up in North Carolina. We decided to go to California. My dad had one week off of work, and we drove there and back in a week.

So it wa- Whoa ... it was a whole lot of, "Well, we don't have time for that. Just take a picture out the window." And so you have a lot of blurry scenes as- Look, kids, Big Ben. Right. Yeah. Exactly. But no, I do, I do love it. And I'm, I'm going with a group to Oregon soon, and, and we're gonna do a little tour of Oregon.

It, it's a little crazy to me that we're flying out there, and then we're probably gonna drive over 1,000 miles. It's like, that's, that's a lot of driving for a trip that you're flying to. But- ... it's gonna be tons of fun. I'm probably gonna be the primary [00:39:00] driver. I'm like David. I, I love to drive. It keeps my mind engaged, because it feels like a little bit of a challenge with traffic.

It's like, "Ooh, I need this lane, and if I move here, I can get up here." And yeah, so anyway.

[00:39:11] **David:** And Audible. I mean, Audible is a, a fantastic- Right ... tool for road trips. Yeah.

[00:39:16] **Adam:** Yes. And the driver is the DJ. I mean, that's the rule. That's, that's true. So- Right ... there you go.

[00:39:23] **Corina:** No.

[00:39:25] **Christina:** Corina, you're on your own, because I also- Passenger, passenger clicking

love a road trip. Oh. I love it. Ah. Previous to having children, my husband's family would make the drive from Minnesota to Texas every year. So we, we would do that road trip- No ... every year to visit family down there. I was just down in Texas visiting Corina, but I did fly this time around. But I did take a- Yes

cool road trip to get to you and drove, like, an hour. You did. You did.

[00:39:48] **Corina:** Now with the- That's true ...

[00:39:49] **Christina:** now with the kids, I'm a little less bold on the road tripping, but we'll still do, you know, to Chicago every a, a few times a year, and that's about six hours, and I love it. Give me the snacks, give me the [00:40:00] music, just give me hours in the car.

We have a great time.

[00:40:03] **Adam:** Awesome. Fun. Well, Corina may- maybe- It's all

[00:40:08] **Christina:** right ...

[00:40:08] **Adam:** maybe you just haven't experienced the perfect road trip yet, and maybe that's to come. You can... Something to look forward to. A

[00:40:16] **Christina:** podcast road trip would change your mind.

[00:40:18] **Adam:** There we go. Take the show on the road. Oh,

[00:40:20] **David:** on the road.

[00:40:21] **Christina:** Yes.

I'll probably crash the car

[00:40:22] **David:** in- Yes ...

[00:40:23] **Christina:** intentionally.

[00:40:23] **David:** We're gonna get a bus. You'll love it.

[00:40:26] **Adam:** Yes. Look out for the No God DP bus coming to your city soon. All right, folks. This has been great. Listeners, we'll see you next time as we continue to study the names of God. We hope you'll join us

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