

**Life Group Notes**  
**Sunday 11 March 2018**

**Speaker:** Sarah Horne

**Title:** Sarah

**Passages:** Genesis 11-20

Abraham's life was full of adventure. But it wasn't just Abraham's adventure; it was his wife, Sarah's, too. We had a look at the adventure through Sarah's eyes. What happened to her? What's her side of the story?

- Sarah has an unremarkable beginning with no knowledge of God as far as we can tell. Just an ordinary girl.
- She was introduced by the most painful thing in her life – read Gen 11:30
- The promise of a child was to Abraham not Sarah initially (Gen 12:2-3 & 7). Would she be a part of it? Did she know about it?
- At least twice she has to pretend to be Abraham's sister to save him (Gen 12:11-13 & Gen 20:2).
- We finally see and hear her pain in the episode with Hagar (Gen 16) – we see her bitterness and jealousy and her cruel side
- God changes her name and her identity from barren Sarai to Sarah, the princess, whose family line will lead to Jesus (Gen 17:15-16).
- Sarah laughs when she hears she'll have a son (Gen 18:10-15). Was that at the impossibility of the situation or was it bitterness and cynicism? God challenges her in v15.
- She finally has the promised son (Gen 21:1-7). Her laughter is changed!
- Sarah remained powerless and voiceless throughout most of her story – largely in the shadows, not in scenes that involve her.
- God sees Sarah, changes her identity and is her champion who rescues her.
- It's like a spiritual rags to riches story! The ordinary girl from the village, who suffers abuse, meets with Almighty God, has her identity changed and becomes the Mother of God's chosen people.

**Suggested questions:**

- What new things did you learn about Sarah? Do you now look at her differently?
- Do you see any of yourself in her? Or any of your story in her story?
- What did you learn about God? Or what were you reminded of about God?
- What did you learn about waiting? What are you waiting for? How will you wait prayerfully and patiently rather than resentfully and bitterly?
- If you have a prophetic word over your life, what are you doing to be ready? How can you wait actively rather than passively? Remember to "weigh" prophetic words.
- Who is God to you? A real knowledge of who God is (rather than the image/idol we make Him into) will define how we react to hard circumstances, how we wait, how we live with unfulfilled promises etc.
- To end, how about having some "Silent Encounter"? What has God got to say to you?