



Women of the Bible in Stained Glass

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses: women and men who have walked in faith, endured in hope, and loved with courage. As we gather to reflect on the lives of your daughters **Sarah and Hagar**—open our hearts to their stories. May their strength and struggle illuminate our own paths. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lectio (Scripture Reading) – *Read the following passages aloud:*

- **Genesis 16:1–16 — Hagar and the birth of Ishmael**
- **Genesis 18:1–15 — The promise to Sarah**
- **Genesis 21:1–21 — The birth of Isaac and Hagar’s exile**

Visio (Seeing)

Gaze at the stained-glass window in silence for 2-3 minutes. Notice:

- What details stand out to you?
- Where is your eye drawn first?
- What emotions or questions arise?

Oratio (Praying)

Silently pray and/or journal for 2-3 minutes. Ask:

- What do you want to say to God after hearing these stories and seeing this image?
- What might God be saying to you through these women?

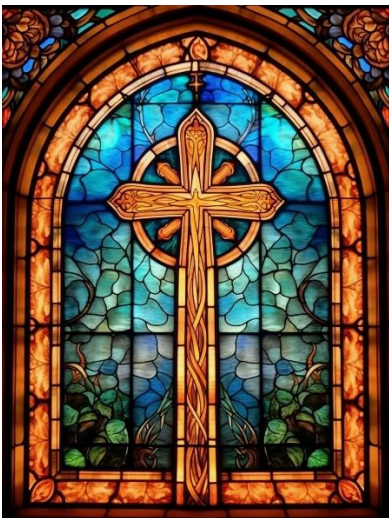
Discussion Questions

1. What did you notice in the scripture that you hadn't before?
2. How does the stained glass deepen or challenge your understanding of Sarah and Hagar?
3. Where do you see yourself in this story?
4. What do these women teach us about faith in times of uncertainty or exclusion?
5. What will you carry with you from today's reflection?

Closing Prayer (Adapted from BCP p. 504)

Almighty and everlasting God,
we praise and glorify your holy Name
for all your faithful servants,
who have shone with the light of your truth,
nurtured life with courage and compassion,
and borne witness to your love.

Grant that we, inspired by their stories,
may run with perseverance the race that is set before us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.



SARAH

ISAAC

HAGAR

ISHMAEL

