

# Hagar: I Am Seen

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## Questions to consider, discuss or journal.

1. God Saw Hagar. Through their interactions Hagar named God, “the God I have seen”. Have you experienced this closeness with God? How can you present your true self to God? How do you come to know him and see him?
2. For one named “Outsider,” those who live by faith will surely recognize how many traits Hagar displays which place her so profoundly **inside** the family of the faithful. What traits does Hagar display that you recognize as inside the family of the faithful?
3. Have you ever felt like an outsider inside your faith community?
4. How can you help the people around you and the people in your church community feel included and seen?
5. What can your spiritual community do to become more inclusive to all of it’s members?
6. God is primarily the God of the oppressed, as Israel often have been. We see an example of God’s care and favour towards the oppressed. How can you show care and favor towards the oppressed?
7. When considering the wider parallels of the harsh treatment Hagar received as an Egyptian slave in an Israelite household and the harsh treatment Israel will receive as slaves in Egypt, was Sarai’s mistreatment of Hagar part-trigger for God to educate Israel by later placing them in Hagar’s role, to be mistreated by her nation?
8. We see woven through this story of Hagar that God doesn’t discriminate by nationality. What is your experience with discrimination? Have you seen discrimination in your church community?
9. The Author shares a quote from Gandhi, “There are people in the world so hungry God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread.” What does this mean to you?
10. God is immutable, but intense need can shape one’s view of Him. In Hagar’s case, her oppression of being constantly overlooked is countered; God meets her need to be seen. How have your needs shaped your view of God?