

A blue sky with a sunburst effect and silhouettes of trees. The sun is partially obscured by a large, fluffy white cloud, creating a bright glow and rays of light. The bottom of the image shows the dark silhouettes of trees against the lighter sky.

# GETTING IN THE WAY OF GOD'S PLANS

## Genesis 16:1-6 KJV

[1] Now Sarai Abram's wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar. [2] And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the Lord hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai. [3] And Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife. [4] And he went in unto Hagar, and she conceived: and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes. [5] And Sarai said unto Abram, My wrong be upon thee: I have given my maid into thy bosom; and when she saw that she had conceived, I was despised in her eyes: the Lord judge between me and thee. [6] But Abram said unto Sarai, Behold, thy maid is in thy hand; do to her as it pleaseth thee. And when Sarai dealt hardly with her, she fled from her face.

# 5 WAYS TO AVOID BLOCKING GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE

## 1. I Cannot Fulfill God's Plan by Doing Things My Way

2 Timothy 2:5 KJV

And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.

1. We can't interpret the rules however we want to.
2. We can't ignore the rules as though they don't apply.
3. We can't invent new rules to apply to us.

## 2. I Cannot Allow Someone Else to Determine God's Plan For Me

He allowed his wife to make a decision for him. Adam did the same thing with Eve when he allowed her to convince him to eat the forbidden fruit.

1. No one will answer to God for the decision you make.
2. No one should have more influence over you than God.
3. No one can make the decision that God wants you to make.

## 3. I Cannot Assume That Every Opportunity is God's Plan

Sarai saw a way to obtain children, so she made an assumption that it was God's will. She should have stuck to the promise that God had already promised and had faith in the outcome.

1. Satan can present opportunities as well.
2. God knows how long I've been waiting, so this must be the opportunity.
3. This opportunity must be from God because I'm so unhappy currently.
4. This opportunity has personal advantages so it must be from God.
5. Somebody prophesied to me that this is God's will.
6. I have a good feeling about this, so it must be from God.

## 4. I Cannot Absolve Myself of the Consequences of My Decisions When They are Apart From God

All the calamity and problems that are a direct cause of our decisions lie solely at our feet when we act against the plans God has for our life. Regrets, apologies, even forgiveness will not avoid consequences.

## 5. I Cannot Exhaust God's Love for me Even When I Violate God's Plan

God is the God of second chances. In spite of the disobedience, God still followed through with his promise to Abram and Sarai and made the world blessed through their seed.