

**A Journey of Faith (Part 6)**  
*A Study of the Life of Abraham*  
(Gen. 16)

*“What to do when you Fall on Your Faith”*

**Introduction:** Alexander Poe said; “To err is human, to forgive is divine. “Human beings give ample evidence of the accuracy of this observation and Abram and Sari (his wife) are no exceptions to the rule. Today we can profit greatly by looking at the mistakes Abram and Sarai made. By studying the cause of their mistakes, the consequences of their mistakes and the cure to mistakes, we can learn, “*what to do when you fall on your faith.*”

**I. Mistakes have their causes: (v.1-4)**

There were five clear causes that led to Abram and Sarai’s mistake and they lead to ours as well.

1. **A wrong perspective** – (Mt. 19:26)
2. **A wrong premise** – (Ps.1:1; Prov 19:20; Ps 33:11)
3. **A wrong purpose** – (Phil 2:3-4)
4. **Prayerlessness** It somehow never enters Abram’s mind to run this idea by God in prayer.
5. **A wrong path** – (2 Cor.5:17; Rom.12:2)

**II. Mistakes have their consequences – (v. 4-6)**

This is a good lesson for God’s people, that when we don’t walk with God by faith and wait for God to fulfill His promises, it causes mistakes. (There are four immediate and one long term consequence of Abram and Sarai’s mistake....)

1. **Bad feelings** – (v.4b)
2. **Bad facilitating** –
3. **Bad family** – (Gal. 5:22-23; 1 Cor. 13:4-8!)
4. **Bad family friction** – (v. 9)
5. **Bad fraction** - The mistake Abram and Sarai made became the beginning point of what today’s journalists call “The Arab-Israeli

conflict.” It all started right here. (Numbers 32:23; Pro. 28:13. Jn. 3:19-21; 1 Jn.1:9)

**III. Mistakes have their cures: (v. 7-16)**

God did not allow Abram and Sarai’s mistake to thwart His purpose. There are three things we must do to effectively deal with our mistakes..

- A. **We must recognize something about God in the situation -**  
*God is not thrown off course by our mistakes.* (God still honors His word.)
- B. **We must realize something about ourselves** –  
Satan would love for you and I to think every mistake we make is our last, and the results are a permanent way of life for the rest of our lives; but this is a lie! (1 Jn.1:9)
- C. **We must respond to God’s revelation** – “What does God want me to do?” Be sensitive to God’s timing & seek godly counsel. Be sure to leave your past out of the present, and walk in harmony with God’s word, ask for God’s wisdom and walk in His ways.

**Conclusion:** If you have fallen on your faith, let me encourage you today – to bring your mistakes to God, you’ll find the help, forgiveness grace and restoration you so deeply need.