

# CHURCH OF CHRIST GULF SHORES

Sunday Evening Sermon

September 11, 2016 (by Ray Reynolds)

## “reADJUST: The Story of Ishmael”



*Starting Over*



Introduction: Would you love to start over? What if you could push a “reset” button? What would you change? Both science and Scripture provide evidence that our minds have a “reset” button (**Romans 12:1-2**). For the next several weeks we will consider true stories that should inspire us to rewire our minds and take advantage of a second chance. I want to remind you of some things we know about Ishmael. We will begin our study in **Genesis 16**. Let’s study together...

### Discussion:

#### **I. What Do We Know?**

##### A. *Ishmael Was Born to a Slave*

- **Genesis 12:16, 16:1-6, 17:25-26, 21:9, Proverbs 30:21-23, Galatians 4:24**

##### B. *Ishmael Was Banned From the Community*

- **Genesis 16:1, 7-16, 21:8-21, 22:2-23:2, 25:1-11**

##### C. *Ishmael Was Blessed to Father a Nation*

- **Genesis 16:11-12, 18:1-15, 25:1-18, 36:3, 37:25-28, Judges 8:24, Psalm 83:6**

#### **II. What Can We Learn?**

##### A. *Remember the Consequences of the Sin*

- **Genesis 12:10-20, 16:4, 17:19, 21:1-12, II Samuel 13:1-39**

##### B. *Remember the Solution*

- **Genesis 12:2, 16:7-8, 21:19-21, 22:17-18, 26:4, Romans 4:13**

##### C. *Remember the Second Chance*

- **Genesis 16:7-8, 21:19-21, Psalm 119:89, Romans 4:21, Hebrews 6:18, II Peter 3:8-9**

Conclusion: We will see throughout this series that transformation takes more than just good intentions and a sincere heart if we plan on starting over. We need to make serious changes (i.e. repentance, confession, obedience) in order to experience a full reset! What have you learned from Ishmael? Have you repented of your sins? Have you confessed those sins? Are you living in obedience? How's your faith? How's your Christian walk? Do you need to press the reset button? You're just a few steps away from starting over. Come to Jesus!