

Shiloh Christian Church Sunday School
Soul Sisters Series
Hagar, Leah, Bilhah, Zilpah, Dinah

LIVING IN THE SHADOW OF GREATNESS

There were five women who lived in the shadow of greatness. Their lives were intertwined with other great men and women that we hear about all the time, yet we never talk about, we seldom read about them, but they played a significant role in the history of the world.

- 1. Hagar** – used and rejected
 - Hagar was Sarah's maid that was chosen by Sarah to bear Abraham's son
 - She did not ask for the assignment, but gave herself in service to her mistress
 - Hagar ran away from the presence of her mistress, but God told her to return
 - God gave her a son, Ishmael and promised to take care of her

- 2. Leah** – unloved yet loyal. Mother of six of Jacob's sons:
 - Reuben – lost his birthright due to sin
 - Simeon
 - Levi
 - Judah (forefather of Jesus)
 - Issachar
 - Zebulun
 - Dinah – the only daughter of Jacob

- 3. Bilhah** – Rachel's servant – given to Jacob. Mother of two of Jacob's sons
 - Dan (30:6) – Rachel said, "God has vindicated me he heard my request."
 - Naphtali – Rachel said, "I am struggling with my sister and winning"
 - Reuben, Leah's oldest son sleeps with Bilhah and this action costs him his birthright. Gen. 49:4 – the blessing of being first is lost – sin has consequence, it is just a matter of time.

- 4. Zilpah** – Leah's servant – given to Jacob. Mother of two of Jacob's sons
 - Gad – Leah said "How fortunate am I"
 - Asher – Leah said "What joy is mine – other women will consider me happy"

- 5. Dinah** – Leah's only daughter – you hear of the 12 sons of Israel.
 - Dinah was raped.
 - Brothers – Reuben and Simeon took revenge – killed her abusers