

An aerial photograph of a vast, forested mountain valley. A river winds through the valley floor, surrounded by dense green trees. The mountains are covered in thick forest, with some rocky outcrops visible. The sky is overcast with soft, grey clouds.

interrupted by GRACE

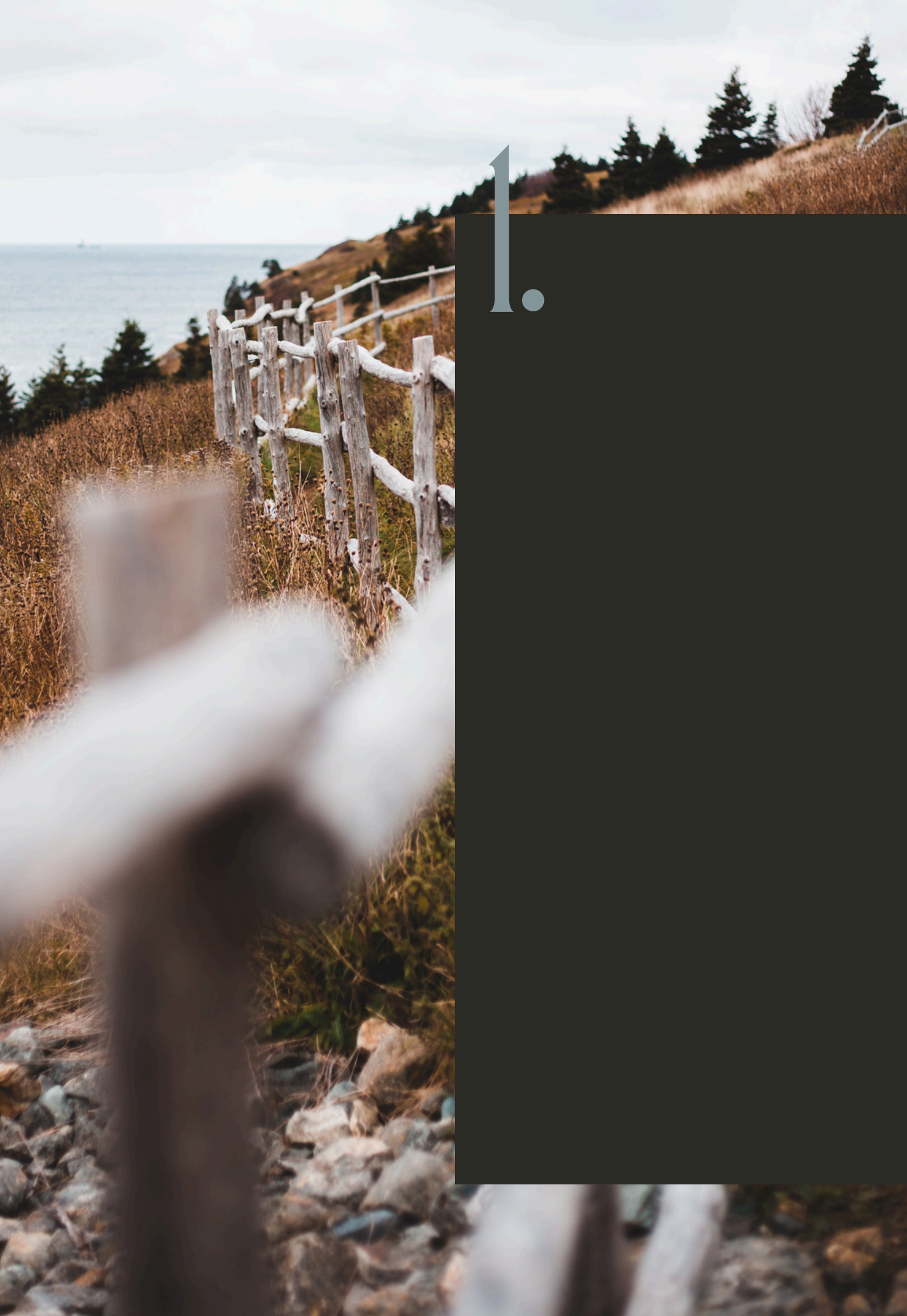
GENESIS 16





MAIN POINT:

**We can't manufacture or rush
God's promises. God's plan will be
accomplished by *his* hand, not
ours, culminating in the
redemption found in Jesus Christ.**



1.

CAN'T WAIT? *forcing*
GOD'S PROMISES ONLY
LEADS TO TROUBLE &
HARDSHIP (1-6)



2.

CHRIST'S *intervention*
MEETS US IN OUR SIN &
WANDERING, & *secures*
GOD'S PROMISES FOR US

(7-16)

“Interrupted by Grace”
Genesis 16 – *Pastor Josh Gerber*

Main idea: We can't manufacture or rush God's promises. God's plan will be accomplished by his hand, not ours, culminating in the redemption found in Jesus Christ.

1. Can't wait? Forcing God's promises only leads to trouble and hardship (v1-6)

2. Christ's intervention meets us in our sin and wandering, and secures God's promises for us (v7-16).

Discussion Questions:

1. In what ways have you experienced God's grace interrupting your plans or goals, and how did you respond in the moment?
2. What are some common modern-day examples of people trying to "force" God's plan instead of waiting on His timing?
3. What can we learn from Abraham's passive role in this story about our own responsibility in situations where we are tempted to follow others instead of God?
4. Can you share a personal experience where you felt unseen or unheard, and how did you find comfort in the idea of "El Roi," the God who sees?
5. Hagar was told to "return to your mistress and submit to her." Why do you think God's grace, in this case, meant facing a difficult situation rather than escaping it? How does this apply to challenges we face today, such as in a difficult marriage or job?
6. God's grace is not an escape from our circumstances but a source of strength within them. How does this idea challenge the common belief that a relationship with God should make our lives easier?
7. Beyond the individual lessons about faith and impatience, what is the "greater purpose" of this story in the overarching narrative of God's redemptive plan?