



## CHAPTER 4

# Hagar: Out from Under Her Control

<i>Verse</i>	<i>Meditation</i>	<i>Prayer</i>
<i>Lesson 1: Egyptian Cinderella</i>		
Psalm 9:7–9 But the Lord sits enthroned forever; he has established his throne for justice, and he judges the world with righteousness; he judges the peoples with uprightness. The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.	God has witnessed every haunting scene of my life firsthand. Rather than dishing out my own scorn, I will put God in control of the consequences.	<i>God, I defer to you as the righteous, just judge.</i>
<i>Lesson 2: Two Counseling Questions</i>		
Galatians 4:8–9 Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. 9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more?	When I try to take back control of my life, I often lead myself into more bondage, not freedom.	<i>God, help me to see with new clarity what I am trying to escape, and what I am trying to gain control of.</i>
<i>Lesson 3: A Thousand Hurdles</i>		
1 Peter 2:18–19 Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly.	God may ask me to endure sorrows or mistreatment for a time.	<i>God, I will press on by filling my mind with who you are and what you have promised.</i>
<i>Lesson 4: Mom at a Distance</i>		
1 Peter 5:7 Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.	Even when I agonize at a distance while my child suffers on the brink of disaster, God is leaning close, hearing my child's parched cry.	<i>Lord, I surrender and even abandon my child to you.</i>
<i>Lesson 5: Opened Eyes</i>		
Psalm 22:9–11 Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts. On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God. Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.	God has all sorts of creative ways to care for my loved ones. Rather than trusting in myself to find solutions, God wants me to cry out to him.	<i>God, I believe that you can open my eyes to provisions that are hidden from me.</i>