In Hagar’s encounter with God, she receives instruction and information about her future (read Genesis 16:9–14). What might Hagar’s initial reaction have been when hearing these words from the angel/God?

Hagar’s encounter with God involved three main elements: command, promise, and revelation. Briefly describe and discuss these elements below:

- **Command** (v9)

- **Promise**
  Long-range promise (v10) – (note: focus on God’s promises about Hagar’s future, not Ishmael’s)
  Short-range promise (v11) – (note: focus on God’s promises about Hagar’s future, not Ishmael’s)

- **Revelation**
  What does God reveal to Hagar about himself? (v11)
  What additional revelation does Hagar receive about God’s character? (v13)

What tangible reminders about God’s character does Hagar take away from this encounter with God? (v11 and v14)

In order for God’s will to be activated in her life, what did Hagar need to do?

God’s plan also included a message of prophecy about Hagar’s son (see verse 12). How can words of prophecy about one’s child be helpful to a mother in raising her child? (Think of prophetic message given to Jesus’ mother, to Samson’s mother, etc.)

**Lesson Principles:**
God’s will for us may sometimes be scary and hard to understand but it always reflects his _______________ (perfect) character of ___________ (love), ______________ (mercy/compassion), and ________________ (grace).

The purpose of an encounter with God is to ___________ (reveal) something to us about his _________________ (character).

Human encounters with God can result in ___________ (deeper) revelation of him and ___________ ____________ (greater intimacy) with him.