

Life Group Discussion Questions

Week 19: January 24-31

Genesis 19

What should we do when our society continues to fall deeper and deeper into wickedness? In Genesis 18, we saw Abraham interceding on behalf of all the people living in Sodom. He was not just praying the righteous; he was also praying for the wicked. He wanted God to spare the whole city for the sake of ten righteous people. However, in Genesis 19, we see that there was not even ten righteous people in the city. After much urging, the angels convinced Lot to take his family and flee out of the city. In this chapter, we learn several important principles that will help us to live godly lives in a wicked world.

Read Genesis 19:1-14

1. What time of the day did the angels come to Sodom in verse 1?
2. What did Lot do in verse 1 when he saw the two visitors?
3. What did Lot offer to do for the two visitors in verse 2?

When we compare the opening verses of chapter 18 to the beginning of this chapter, we see that both Abraham and Lot held to a similar practice of showing great respect and hospitality to visitors.

4. What did Lot do for his guests in verse 3?
5. What did the men of the city want to do to Lot's guests? (19:4-5)

The Bible identifies homosexual behavior as sin in the Old Testament (Lev. 18:22; 20:13) and in the New Testament (Rom. 1:26-27; 1 Cor. 6:9-11). Jude says that Sodom and Gomorrah were punished because of their "sexual immorality and perversion" (Jude 7). However, the people of Sodom were guilty of many different kinds of sin. The context of chapters 18 and 19 show a deliberate contrast between the way Abraham showed kindness to visitors and the way the men of Sodom showed cruelty to visitors.

6. How did Lot try to protect his guests from being raped by the men of Sodom? (19:6-8)

7. What did the men of Sodom threaten to do to Lot in verse 9?

Many commentaries have offered possible explanations for why Lot would offer his daughters to be raped by the men of Sodom. Perhaps the sinful culture of Sodom had warped Lot's thinking. Peter calls Lot "righteous" three times and describes how Lot's soul was tormented by the sins of Sodom (2 Peter 2:6-8). However, there is no legitimate excuse for Lot's sinful suggestion. Dennis Prager writes,

Lot's offer strikes the reader as unbelievable in its depravity. Clearly, however, the men were not interested in women. Perhaps Lot knew this, and (viewing Lot's behavior in the most charitable light possible) knew the offer of his daughters would be rebuffed but hoped to use it to buy some time.¹

8. How did the angels save Lot from being attacked by the men of Sodom? (19:10-11)

9. What did the angels tell Lot to do in verses 12-13?

When Abraham was pleading with God on behalf of Sodom, he gradually worked God down to sparing the city for the sake of ten righteous people, but he didn't go any lower. Perhaps he thought that Lot had at least ten righteous family members and servants. Paul Kissling notes,

While we only hear of Lot's wife, his two daughters, and two fiancés or sons-in-law, the angel's question raises the possibility of there being other members of the family. In fact the two men refer to Lot's sons as well as his daughters who are presumably different from the two he offered the mob. There is also the possibility that some of Lot's servants had taken up residence in Sodom ("anyone else in the city who belongs to you").²

10. How did Lot's sons-in-law respond when he tried to warn them about the coming judgment of God in verse 14?

¹ Dennis Prager, *The Rational Bible: Genesis* (Washington, DC: Regnery Faith, 2019), 225.

² Paul Kissling, *The College Press NIV Commentary: Genesis Volume 2* (Joplin, MO: College Press, 2009), 154.

Read Genesis 19:15-29

11. What did the angels urge Lot to do the next morning? (19:15)
12. What did the angels do when Lot hesitated to leave in verse 16?
13. What did the angels tell Lot and his family to do in verse 17?
14. Why did Lot beg the angels to allow him to seek refuge in the town of Zoar instead of the mountains? (19:18-20)
15. How did the angels respond to Lot's request in verses 21-22?
16. How did God destroy the cities of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim? (19:23-25, see also Deut. 29:23)
17. What happened to Lot's wife when she looked back at Sodom in verse 26?

In Luke 17:28-33, Jesus refers to this event and says, "Remember Lot's wife!" In that passage Jesus is urging us to let go of worldly values and be ready for the Judgment to take place at any time.

18. What did Abraham see early the next morning? (19:27-28)
19. What does verse 29 mean when it says God remembered Abraham?

Read Genesis 19:30-38

20. Why did Lot leave the town of Zoar and go to live in the mountains? (19:30)
21. How did Lot's daughters trick him into having sex with them? (19:32-36)
22. What were the names of the sons born from Lot's incest with his daughters? What nations did they become? (19:37-38)
23. How does Sodom and Gomorrah compare to our society?
24. How should we pray for the wicked people in our culture?
25. How can we avoid falling into the sinful patterns that many people consider good or normal?

Sermon Notes 1/24/21

"Sodom and Gomorrah"

How should we respond to Genesis chapter 19?

1. Stay close to _____ people.
Genesis 19:1
Hebrews 10:23-25
2 Peter 2:6-9
2. Let go of _____ values.
Genesis 19:17
1 John 2:15-17
Luke 17:28-33
3. _____ for people who need Jesus.
Genesis 19:29
Genesis 18:17-18
1 Timothy 2:1-6



Jesus said, "Remember Lot's wife!" Luke 17:32