

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on thorncreek.church/live)

Warming up

1. How would you explain Sodom and Gomorrah to a 10 year old?

Digging Deeper & Application

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. Read Genesis 13:12-13.
 - a. What do we learn about Sodom in this passage?
 - b. Lot chose to live by Sodom. Do you think what or who you live by can affect you spiritually?
 - c. As you read through this passage, see how Sodom affected Lot...and his family.
3. Read Genesis chapters 18-19, describes Sodom and Gomorrah.
 - a. Let's start by looking at Genesis 18:1-2. Who were these three men?
 - b. How did Abraham respond to these men?
4. Read Genesis 18:16-19.
 - a. God does something amazing... What does God do with Abraham?
 - b. What does this say about Abraham's relationship with God?
5. Read Gen 18:20-33.
 - a. What does Abraham negotiate with God?
 - b. What are the numbers?
 - c. What is Abraham's case? Compare this passage with 2 Peter 3:9.
6. Read Genesis 19
 - a. What happens to Sodom?
 - b. Please read verses 1-5. According to Gen 19:5, what do the sodomites want to do?
7. A Jewish scholar said this, "The people of Sodom want to commit homosexual rape on these men. From verses we read in Leviticus, it is clear that homosexuality is regarded as one of the abhorrent perversions of the Canaanites." (Nahum Sarna).

- a. Compare this quote with Leviticus 18:22-24; Jude 1:7; Romans 1:18-27; and 1 Corinthians 6:9-10.
 - b. Based on these verses, does God call homosexuality sin? Why or why not?
8. Rick Warren said, "Tolerance used to mean, we treat each other with mutual respect even if we have major disagreements. Today, tolerance has been changed to mean, all ideas are equally valid."
- a. How does this quote relate to homosexuality today?
 - b. All of us need God's grace. All of them need the blood of Christ to cover it. All sins will create a wedge between us and God. Why do some people rank sins?
 - c. If you disagree with God on an issue, would you still surrender to it? Why or why not?
 - d. Do you believe God is your Creator?
 - e. Are you the created?
9. Read Genesis 19:6-16.
- a. How would you describe God's mercy in this passage?
 - b. What do you see?
10. Read Genesis 19:17-29. Talk about it. Compare this story with the words of Jesus in Matthew 10:14-15.

Application

Below are some of the points shared in the message. Discuss how they apply to your life.

- God does something amazing... God includes Abraham into a plan that he is about to execute.
- The righteous minority can change the course for the unrighteous majority.
- Awareness - Repentance - Forgiveness - Obedience - Blessing
- IT'S IMPORTANT YOU SEE SOMETHING...Something you see in Sodom and Gomorrah is a LACK OF REPENTANCE. You see a lack of repentance in the story of the FLOOD as well.