



CHAPTERS
18-19

GENESIS

DAY ONE

1. Please read the chapters at least twice before beginning the study guide. Many people read God's word occasionally, but you are studying it diligently. May God richly bless your time in His word.

2. Let's divide Chapter 18 into two sections. After reading the chapter, write a short title for each section.

a. Genesis 18:1-15

b. Genesis 18:16-33

3. Genesis 18 begins with another appearance of God to Abraham. This time it is different. Some commentaries referred to this as a theophany, which is a visible manifestation of God. We do not know if Abraham fully understood who was with him, but we see him responding in a very hospitable way in verse 14. How many visitors are at Abraham's tent?

4. Genesis 18 mentions Abraham is living near _____.

Verse 1 goes on to describe the time of day; it was the _____ of the day. What insight might this give us into the daily routine of these ancient nomadic people?

5. Who appeared to Abraham?

Did you notice this name is written in all capital letters?

We have seen this many times before in this study, what is the Hebrew name referred to when LORD is in all capital letters?

6. Abraham seated himself in such a way that he was looking out of the tent. Why would he choose to sit there?

7. Genesis 18:2 tells us, "Abraham looked up and saw _____ standing nearby." Highlight the verbs that tell what Abraham did next.

8. We dare not miss the wording of verse 3. “If I have _____ in your eyes, my Lord, do not pass _____ by.” For those who love getting to know the names of God better, the word translated “Lord” here is the name “Adonai.” It is the name often used in place of, or along with, Yahweh. It is the plural of Adown. Read Psalm 8:1 KJV and Habakkuk 3:19 KJV. What can be gleaned from these verses concerning our great God?

9. What character quality would you say Abraham is displaying in Genesis 18:2?

10. Notice the act of kindness extended in verse 4. Abraham would be familiar with the needs of one who traveled in this climate. Why do you believe this act would have been appreciated?

11. What hospitable act do you read about in verses 5-8?
Be specific in your answer.

12. Are you good at seeing the needs of those around you?

Are you willing to be the one to meet those needs?

DAY TWO —

13. In verses 9-11 we read one of the visitors asked Abraham, “Where is your wife, Sarah?” Previously, when the promise was given in Genesis 15:4, who was the only one specifically named?

14. When Sarah heard that her long-awaited prayer was about to be answered, what was her response?

How did Sarah picture the couple’s physical condition?

15. Sometimes we see ourselves in such a poor light that it is hard to imagine how God could still use us for anything of eternal value. As we can see from Sarah's story, she was focusing on the wrong thing. The promise did not hinge on Abraham's or Sarah's abilities. The promise hinged on God's ability to fulfill his word. Does knowing this give you hope as you await your unanswered prayers?

Are you motivated to seek direction for serving God?

Think for a few minutes about your area of service. List the ways you are serving.

If you are a child of God, he has an area of service for you. As part of the body of believers, we should live our life as one big thank you for all the Lord has done for us.

16. Genesis 17:17 and 18:12 record that both Abraham and Sarah laughed when they heard God's plans. Read Genesis 18:14 again. What does the LORD want them both to know?

17. When you read Genesis 18:14, what came to your mind?

- Is there something you have been praying about that feels as if it is too late?
- Is your marriage on the rocks?
- Is your heart breaking for a wayward child?
- Do you have a friend or loved one who seems bent on self-destruction?
- Do you feel the world is spinning out of control with no moral compass?

What do you believe the LORD wants you to focus on today?

18. Now let's look at the second half of Genesis 18. This is an interesting section of scripture. Unfortunately, these verses are easy to misunderstand or misinterpret. We will strive to study the remaining verses carefully and prayerfully. What do we see Abraham doing in verse 16?

What do we do today that is similar when company leaves our home?

19. When you read Genesis 18:17, what did you think of the relationship between God and Abraham?

How would you describe their relationship in one word?

How did the prophet Isaiah describe Abraham in Isaiah 41:8? Read James 2:23 also.

20. Read John 15:14-15. In your own words, what did Jesus say his followers must do?

Verse 14

Verse 15

21. What are some qualities of those who desire to be a good friend?

22. Several years ago, author and speaker Shaunti Feldhahn authored a book, *The Kindness Challenge*. Her 30-day challenge had three parts. She referred to it as intentional kindness. For the challenge, you simply choose a relationship you would like to improve and then do these three things:

- For 30 days say no negative words to them or about them.
- For 30 days find something positive to affirm each day and share it.
- For 30 days do one act of kindness or generosity each day.

Can you imagine how wonderful the world would be if for 30 days we all chose intentional kindness?

If you would like to take her "Kindness Quotient Assessment" here is the link:

<https://www.jointhekindnesschallenge.com/assessments>

DAY THREE

23. Getting back to Genesis 18, list the things God said about Abraham in verses 18-19.

24. One of the things believers have in common with Abraham is that God also choose us. Read John 15:16-17, after we respond in faith and trust Christ, what are we to do?

25. Genesis 18:20 is the beginning of God's judgement on Sodom and Gomorrah. Read 2 Peter 3:9 and Galatians 6:7. What do you see in these verses about our good God?

The people of Sodom and Gomorrah have been sowing seeds of blatant sin without a glimmer of shame. Who has come to check and see if things are as bad as they seem based on the outcry of the people?

26. After two of the visitors left, who remained with Abraham?

27. The next several verses of Genesis 18 are a beautiful display of the close relationship Abraham enjoys with the LORD. Close friends are not afraid to discuss hard issues. Yet, even in his boldness, we see his humility and reverence for the LORD. How would you say Abraham displays boldness?

How would you say he shows reverence?

28. In what way did Abraham's interceding for Sodom surprise you?

To what extent should we go to intercede for others?

29. The heart of compassion is not merely seeing a need but meeting that need in a tangible way. It is a mixture of love and sorrow. We see God's compassion, mercy and grace expressed over and over in verses 23-32. Define compassion, mercy, and grace.

- a. Compassion
- b. Mercy
- c. Grace

30. In what ways do you see these three manifested in the world around you?

31. What are a few ways we can extend compassion, mercy, and grace so others can experience it?

32. Why is it imperative that we accept God's mercy and grace even though we do not deserve it?

33. Do you have a favorite Bible verse that points to God's mercy and grace? Write it here.

34. Why is Abraham going to all this trouble for a town with such a wicked reputation?

35. When we read Genesis 18:22-32, Abraham appears to be the initiator of this conversation, but he is not. The LORD remained with Abraham so that he could display his mercy and show his righteous judgement. What happened in verse 33?

36. Who is on your intercessory prayer list? Take a minute to pray for them.

DAY FOUR

37. Genesis 19 is a sad chapter. It is a chapter that deals with judgement. We should never enjoy seeing someone else suffer, especially when God's mercy has ended. Genesis 19:1 tells us the two angels arrived at Sodom. What time of day was it?

38. Where did the scripture say Lot was as the angels arrived in his city?

39. This was a place of prominence and leadership. The city gate was the place of rule. Read Ruth 4:1-11, what is taking place at the gate of the city?

40. Proverbs 31 speaks of a virtuous woman, and it mentions the city gate. What do you learn about this woman and her husband in Proverbs 31:23?

41. How persistent is Lot in verses 2-3?

42. Read Genesis 19:4-7, these verses help us see why Lot was so insistent that the men go home with him. What was the reason?

Would you say this city is very wicked?

43. Before we pat Lot on the back for being such a hero saving these men, what does he offer the men of the city and how did they respond in verses 8-9?

Genesis 19:10-11. These are no ordinary men. What did they do that revealed their identity?

44. In verses 12-14, the angel instructed Lot to go and get his family together, then bring them into his house quickly. Who did Lot invite to come with him?

Did they accept his invitation?

45. How a person leads really does matter, because our influence builds over time. What kind of influence had Lot been that might have caused them to think this was a joke?

46. In Genesis 19:15, we see the men referred to as angels. They urge Lot and his family to hurry because the destruction of Sodom is imminent. What were their instructions?

DAY FIVE

47. After reading Genesis 19:16, can Lot be credited with saving his family?

48. How did Lot respond to the instructions given to him? (Read Genesis 19:18-20)

Would you say this is a typical Lot mentality?

What is Lot's focus for every decision he makes? Is it what does God want him to do?

- Is it what is best for his family?
- Or is the focus on what Lot wants to do?

49. The angel allows Lot and his family to quickly flee to Zoar before sunrise. What happened as they arrived in this little city?

50. How important is it that we not only hear the instructions given to us by God but to carry them out exactly as commanded?

What did verse 17 say they were to do?

Did Lot's wife obey?

Why do you suppose she looked back; her husband and daughters were with her, wasn't that enough?

51. Lot and his two daughters leave Zoar and settle in the mountains. This is an example of delayed obedience. Is Lot obediently doing what he had been instructed to do or is he obeying for some other reason? (See verse 30)

52. Lot had spent his entire life feeding his own wants and desires. This had been the daily example before his daughters. Is it surprising that they would be comfortable doing whatever they saw fit to meet their own fleshly desires?

Would it even occur to them to seek God with this need?

53. As parents it is imperative that we live a life that continually points to our Good Shepherd, our provider and protector. If we do not, what will our children learn to do?

54. As much as I do not want to talk about the events that follow, I must. Lot's daughters feared they would never have children of their own, so they quickly devised a wicked plan. They got their father drunk and had an incestuous relationship with him. Which resulted in a pregnancy. Both girls had sons.

a. "The older daughter had a son and she named him _____; he is the father of the _____ of today." (verse 37)

b. "The younger daughter also had a son, and she named him _____; he is the father of the _____ of today." (verse 38)

As you read your Bible keep these names in mind, they will be a continuing problem for the descendants of Abraham. If you have time to do further study, research these two nations and see what you can learn about them.

55. What character qualities did you see in this chapter?

Good character seen in Genesis 18-19	Bad character seen in Genesis 18-19

56. What was your take-away lesson from Genesis 18-19?

DAY ONE

Question 8

Psalm 8:1 (KJV)

⁸O LORD, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

Habakkuk 3:19 (KJV)

¹⁹The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.

DAY TWO

Question 19

Isaiah 41:8 (NIV)

⁸"But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, you descendants of Abraham my friend,

James 2:23 (NIV)

²³And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend.

Question 20

John 15:14-15 (NIV)

¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

DAY THREE

Question 24

John 15:16-17 (NIV)

¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. ¹⁷This is my command: Love each other.

Question 25

2 Peter 3:9 (NIV)

⁹The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Galatians 6:7 (NIV)

⁷Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.

DAY FOUR

Question 39

Ruth 4:1-11 (NIV)

¹Meanwhile Boaz went up to the town gate and sat down there just as the guardian-redeemer he had mentioned came along. Boaz said, “Come over here, my friend, and sit down.” So he went over and sat down. ²Boaz took ten of the elders of the town and said, “Sit here,” and they did so. ³Then he said to the guardian-redeemer, “Naomi, who has come back from Moab, is selling the piece of land that belonged to our relative Elimelek. ⁴I thought I should bring the matter to your attention and suggest that you buy it in the presence of these seated here and in the presence of the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, do so. But if you will not, tell me, so I will know. For no one has the right to do it except you, and I am next in line.” “I will redeem it,” he said. ⁵Then Boaz said, “On the day you buy the land from Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the dead man’s widow, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property.” ⁶At this, the guardian-redeemer said, “Then I cannot redeem it because I might endanger my own estate. You redeem it yourself. I cannot do it.” ⁷(Now in earlier times in Israel, for the redemption and transfer of property to become final, one party took off his sandal and gave it to the other. This was the method of legalizing transactions in Israel.) ⁸So the guardian-redeemer said to Boaz, “Buy it yourself.” And he removed his sandal. ⁹Then Boaz announced to the elders and all the people, “Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelek, Kilion and Mahlon. ¹⁰I have also acquired Ruth the Moabite, Mahlon’s widow, as my wife, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property, so that his name will not disappear from among his family or from his hometown. Today you are witnesses!” ¹¹Then the elders and all the people at the gate said, “We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the family of Israel. May you have standing in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem.

Question 40

Proverbs 31:23 (NIV)

²³Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land.

B I B L E C H A P T E R S

Genesis 18 (NIV)

¹The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day.

²Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground.

³He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by.

⁴Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree.

⁵Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant." "Very well," they answered, "do as you say."

⁶So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. "Quick," he said, "get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread."

⁷Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it.

⁸He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

⁹"Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him. "There, in the tent," he said.

¹⁰Then one of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son." Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him.

¹¹Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing.

¹²So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?"

¹³Then the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?'

¹⁴Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son."

¹⁵Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, "I did not laugh." But he said, "Yes, you did laugh."

¹⁶When the men got up to leave, they looked down toward Sodom, and Abraham walked along with them to see them on their way.

¹⁷Then the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?

¹⁸Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him.

¹⁹For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just, so that the LORD will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him."

²⁰Then the LORD said, "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous

²¹that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know."

²²The men turned away and went toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the LORD.

²³Then Abraham approached him and said: "Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked?

²⁴What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it?

²⁵Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

²⁶The LORD said, "If I find fifty righteous people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

²⁷Then Abraham spoke up again: "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes,

²⁸what if the number of the righteous is five less than fifty? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five people?" "If I find forty-five there," he said, "I will not destroy it."

²⁹Once again he spoke to him, "What if only forty are found there?" He said, "For the sake of forty, I will not do it."

³⁰ Then he said, “May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak. What if only thirty can be found there?” He answered, “I will not do it if I find thirty there.”

³¹ Abraham said, “Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, what if only twenty can be found there?” He said, “For the sake of twenty, I will not destroy it.”

³² Then he said, “May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?” He answered, “For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it.”

³³ When the LORD had finished speaking with Abraham, he left, and Abraham returned home.

Genesis 19 (NIV)

¹ The two angels arrived at Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gateway of the city. When he saw them, he got up to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground.

² “My lords,” he said, “please turn aside to your servant’s house. You can wash your feet and spend the night and then go on your way early in the morning.” “No,” they answered, “we will spend the night in the square.”

³ But he insisted so strongly that they did go with him and entered his house. He prepared a meal for them, baking bread without yeast, and they ate.

⁴ Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom—both young and old—surrounded the house.

⁵ They called to Lot, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them.”

⁶ Lot went outside to meet them and shut the door behind him

⁷ and said, “No, my friends. Don’t do this wicked thing.

⁸ Look, I have two daughters who have never slept with a man. Let me bring them out to you, and you can do what you like with them. But don’t do anything to these men, for they have come under the protection of my roof.”

⁹ “Get out of our way,” they replied. “This fellow came here as a foreigner, and now he wants to play the judge! We’ll treat you worse than them.” They kept bringing pressure on Lot and moved forward to break down the door.

¹⁰ But the men inside reached out and pulled Lot back into the house and shut the door.

¹¹ Then they struck the men who were at the door of the house, young and old, with blindness so that they could not find the door.

¹² The two men said to Lot, “Do you have anyone else here—sons-in-law, sons or daughters, or anyone else in the city who belongs to you? Get them out of here,

¹³ because we are going to destroy this place. The outcry to the LORD against its people is so great that he has sent us to destroy it.”

¹⁴ So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who were pledged to marry his daughters. He said, “Hurry and get out of this place, because the LORD is about to destroy the city!” But his sons-in-law thought he was joking.

¹⁵ With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Hurry! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away when the city is punished.”

¹⁶ When he hesitated, the men grasped his hand and the hands of his wife and of his two daughters and led them safely out of the city, for the LORD was merciful to them.

¹⁷ As soon as they had brought them out, one of them said, “Flee for your lives! Don’t look back, and don’t stop anywhere in the plain! Flee to the mountains or you will be swept away!”

¹⁸ But Lot said to them, “No, my lords, please!

¹⁹ Your servant has found favor in your eyes, and you have shown great kindness to me in sparing my life. But I can’t flee to the mountains; this disaster will overtake me, and I’ll die.

²⁰ Look, here is a town near enough to run to, and it is small. Let me flee to it—it is very small, isn’t it? Then my life will be spared.”

²¹ He said to him, “Very well, I will grant this request too; I will not overthrow the town you speak of.

- ²² But flee there quickly, because I cannot do anything until you reach it.” (That is why the town was called Zoar.)
- ²³ By the time Lot reached Zoar, the sun had risen over the land.
- ²⁴ Then the LORD rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the LORD out of the heavens.
- ²⁵ Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, destroying all those living in the cities—and also the vegetation in the land.
- ²⁶ But Lot’s wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.
- ²⁷ Early the next morning Abraham got up and returned to the place where he had stood before the LORD.
- ²⁸ He looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah, toward all the land of the plain, and he saw dense smoke rising from the land, like smoke from a furnace.
- ²⁹ So when God destroyed the cities of the plain, he remembered Abraham, and he brought Lot out of the catastrophe that overthrew the cities where Lot had lived.
- ³⁰ Lot and his two daughters left Zoar and settled in the mountains, for he was afraid to stay in Zoar. He and his two daughters lived in a cave.
- ³¹ One day the older daughter said to the younger, “Our father is old, and there is no man around here to give us children—as is the custom all over the earth.
- ³² Let’s get our father to drink wine and then sleep with him and preserve our family line through our father.”
- ³³ That night they got their father to drink wine, and the older daughter went in and slept with him. He was not aware of it when she lay down or when she got up.
- ³⁴ The next day the older daughter said to the younger, “Last night I slept with my father. Let’s get him to drink wine again tonight, and you go in and sleep with him so we can preserve our family line through our father.”
- ³⁵ So they got their father to drink wine that night also, and the younger daughter went in and slept with him. Again he was not aware of it when she lay down or when she got up.
- ³⁶ So both of Lot’s daughters became pregnant by their father.
- ³⁷ The older daughter had a son, and she named him Moab; he is the father of the Moabites of today.
- ³⁸ The younger daughter also had a son, and she named him Ben-Ammi; he is the father of the Ammon

