

## *A Word from Kathy*

*I know two chapters may seem like a lot to cover in one week, but we are going to take it in bite-size pieces. It will be important to read both chapters together twice, so you get the entire picture and then we will go back and look at it in detail. Don't forget to try the **Bible.is** application online or on your phone to listen to a dramatic reading of these two chapters. (It is a free app)  
Begin with prayer, asking God to reveal Himself to you through His Word.*

### *Observation*

1. Genesis 18 begins with another appearance of God to Abraham. Although this time it is different, God is actually before him, visible as a man. This is known as a *theophany*; a visible manifestation of God. We do not know if Abraham fully understood at first who it was there with him but we see him responding in a very hospitable way. By verse 14 it will be clear. How many visitors are there at Abraham's tent?
2. What was Abraham doing when the LORD appeared to him in verse 1?
3. How did Abraham view the needs of these strangers?
4. Since it was the heat of the day work would have been at it's least productive so it is not unusual that Abraham was sitting in his tent. He may have been focusing on the LORD. What good news have these men come to him with?
5. What was Sarah doing while Abraham was talking with these travelers? (end of vs. 10) What was her response to their good news?
6. What did the men say to Abraham concerning Sarah's response?  
How old is Sarah at this time?
7. Briefly state the events of verses 16-33 as Abraham intercedes for Sodom.
  
8. Why is Abraham going to all this trouble for a town he does not live in, a town with such a wicked reputation?

9. Who do you see arriving in Sodom in Gen. 19:1?  
How were they described?  
This is a wonderful example of how scripture clarifies scripture. In Gen. 18 we saw 3 visitors arrive at Abraham's tent. One of the visitors is addressed in the scripture as "LORD" which is the name Jehovah, The Self-Existent One. Now we see who the other 2 visitors were.
10. Who do they meet sitting by the city gate?
11. What does Lot know about his city that inspires him to insist they stay the night at his home?
12. What did the men of the city do when Lot took the strangers in?
13. I would love to be proud of Lot for his desire to protect these travelers; but what does he offer the men of Sodom when they try to force him to turn over the visitors to them?
14. Were the men of Sodom impressed with his offer?
15. Did the men of Sodom consider Lot as one of them? Vs. 9
16. The angels proved they were sent by God when they struck the men of the town with blindness. How many men in Sodom were affected by the blindness?
17. What was the warning in verses 12-13?
18. Was Lot able to convince anyone with his words of warning?
19. When morning came what was the final instruction the angels gave to Lot concerning the family's departure?
20. Do Lot, his wife and his daughters obey quickly and completely? Vs. 26
21. Even though the men of Sodom were wicked and vile and Lot was not much better; what was the reason he and his family were spared? Vs. 29
22. Some of the saddest verses in the book of Genesis are verses 30-38. What are the two daughters afraid will happen to them?
23. How do they choose to remedy their situation?

## *Interpretation*

24. We have studied several of the names of God which describe His attributes and His character.

**Elohim**- The All Powerful One, Creator.

**Ei Elyon**-The God Most High, The Sovereign God in whom we can put our trust.

**Ei Roi**-The God Who Sees Me, the One who knows me and is aware of my circumstances and cares.

**Ei Shaddai**- The All Sufficient One, He has unlimited resources and is all powerful to handle any problems.

Genesis 18:1 we see his name **Jehovah**-The Self-Existent One, He never changes.

How has studying the names for God helped you grow in your relationship with Him?

Try to memorize these names and their meaning.

25. How do you respond to the needs of others around you?

26. Are you moved with compassion in a way that brings you to action?

The purpose of compassion is not merely that we see a need but that we would be moved to meet that need in a tangible way.

27. As you read Genesis 18: 16-33 what were your thoughts about Abraham?

What are your thoughts about Lot?

28. As Abraham interceded for Sodom were you amazed at the mercy that God was still willing to extend to these wicked people?

29. To what extent had the people of Sodom and Gomorrah plummeted into sin, Vs. 20-21?

Now that you have done careful observation of these two chapters who do you suppose had been crying out, begging God to move on their behalf?

30. In what way did Abraham's interceding for Sodom surprise you or not surprise you?

What lesson do you see in the extent we should go to interceding for others?

Why do you suppose Abraham was afraid to simply leave it at 50, then 45, then 30, then 20, then 10?

31. When you read that the two angels met Lot sitting at the gate did that surprise you?

Sitting at the gate was reserved for the leaders of a city. Do you believe this is how the people of Sodom viewed Lot or was this how Lot viewed himself?

32. Read Matthew 10: 11-16; these are Jesus instructions to His followers. How would this apply to us as we attempt to share Jesus with others?  
People who reject the gospel we share with them will be worse off than the wicked that were destroyed in Sodom and Gomorrah since they had not actually heard the gospel.  
What did Jesus mean when he said we are to be “wise” and “innocent” in Matthew 10:16?
33. What effect had the wicked people of Sodom and Gomorrah had on Lot’s daughters? Gen. 19:30-38  
Do you suppose Lot ever saw this coming as he made his choices, to move to Sodom, to do business there and to eventually move his family into the city?  
Can we ever fully predict the consequences of our bad choices? If not, then what can we do to avoid going too far and leaving ourselves open to anguish and regret?

### *Application*

34. What lessons have you learned from these two chapters?
35. Which section of either Gen. 18 or 19 spoke to you as a warning?
36. What truth did you learn about the character of God this week?
37. What changes in your heart and your thinking would you like to talk to the Lord about now that you have taken this time studying Genesis 18 & 19?
38. Who came to your mind this week as you read of Abraham’s intercession for others?
39. To what lengths are you willing to go to protect those under your care from the influence of this sinful world?