

# Genesis 19:1-29

12 March 2023

ICE BREAKER: Who is someone you respect because of a stand they took?

## LARGE GROUP QUESTIONS:

In contrast to Abraham, who was called ‘a friend of God’, is Abraham’s nephew Lot. When the two angels arrived in Lot’s city of Sodom, Lot was “sitting in the gateway of the city.” The gateway of a city served as the center for all legal and official business. To sit in the gateway meant Lot was a member of Sodom’s Ruling Council.

Lot showed all the markings of outward success and influence. He had **position**. Genesis 15:5-7 revealed Lot was extremely **wealthy**. Everyone knew where he lived and who he entertained. However, when sin visited his home and catastrophe approached, the appearance gave way to reality—his spiritual failure and lack of real influence.

### 1. To you, what is the **difference** between **outward success** and **inward success**?

(Read verses 6-9) Upon hearing the arrival of Lot’s guests, a mob came to Lot’s home demanding Lot to release the guests. The wicked men of Sodom came to fulfill their perversion and wickedness. **Lot stood between sin and innocence**.

When sin came knocking on his door, Lot sought to fulfill his sacred duties of hospitality for guests under his protection. In doing so, he sacrificed the virtue, honor, and safety of his own two daughters.

He sought to avoid the crushing peer pressure in **his own power** and on **his own terms**. He went out on his own to persuade the crowd. He offered his own two daughters to the lusts and violence of the crowd. He appealed to his position as a member of the city’s council, but the mob only mocked him as playing the “judge”.

### 2. When **peer pressure** and **sin** come knocking on your door, how have you seen **responding in your own power** and on **your own terms** only make matters **worse**?

(Read verses 14-16) In seeking to appease the violence of the mob, Lot compromised his own daughters. Even though Lot sinfully offered up his daughters, the two angels intervened to protect both Lot and his daughters. If the angels intervened when Lot compromised in the face of sin, **how much more** would they have intervened if Lot **had taken a stand** for righteousness?

### 3. Why do you think it is so much **easier to compromise** than to take a **firm stand** for the Lord?

When peer pressure pressed in on Lot, sin knocked on his door, and catastrophe approached, Lot’s shallow character and weak faith in the Lord came to the surface. The crises in our lives do not cause us to be filled with worry and anger. These are only the outward signs revealing our inward reality.

Anger reveals our selfishness because things aren’t going our way. Worry simply reveals we have deep problems trusting the Lord.

### 4. Through the recent struggles or crises in your life, what has **the Lord** been **revealing** about **your character** and **your faith**? (The good and the bad.)

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## PRAYER GROUP TIME

*(Make a list of people whom those, in your group, plan to witness Christ to this week.)*

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