

# Old Testament Times

## Sodom and Gomorrah Genesis 19:1-29

### Younger Memory Verse

No one can snatch you out of God's Hand. John 10:28 paraphrased

### Older Memory Verse

I (God) give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.  
John 10:28

Teachers: This new unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament. Each lesson will have both Old Testament and New Testament passages.

PLEASE remember to always include the New Testament verses—this helps each child see how God's ultimate plan was fulfilled in Christ!

### Welcome Time

Sometimes we make bad mistakes and we have to deal with the consequences. Let's see what happens when these two cities do not follow God.

### Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Teachers: be sensitive to the kids. There are parts of this story that may be too intensive for younger kids.

Last week we learned about three visitors that came to Abraham. They told him good news about having a baby. They also told him some disturbing news.

The three men told Abraham that they were going down to the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to see how wicked the people were.

Abraham must have known how awful the people were and he pleaded for God to save the people who loved Him. Abraham knew that Lot lived there. He was also pleading for Lot's life.

As two of the three men walked to the cities, they saw Lot sitting at the city gate. Lot went to them and bowed down, showing them respect. He invited the men to his home. The men wanted to spend the night in the town, but Lot insisted that they stay with him and his family.

Before bedtime, many men came to Lot's door. They knocked on the door and wanted the two men to come outside the house.

Lot came outside and asked them not to do mean things to the two visitors. They pushed him aside and tried to get into the house. The two men reached outside and pulled Lot inside the house. Then they made all the men at the door blind. The men could not

**Lesson Goals:** Listen and Obey God  
Sin can have major consequences

see the door to open it.

The two men told Lot that he and his family must leave this wicked city. They asked him to gather his family and leave immediately because they were going to totally destroy the two cities.

The men urged Lot to hurry. When Lot hesitated, the men grabbed his hand and led them safely out of the city. They told Lot and his family to run for their lives, and not to look back or stop anywhere. Lot begged them to let them go to a little town close by to live. They agreed and waited for him to get on their way.

When they arrived in the little town, God rained down burning sulfur from the heavens. It totally destroyed the two cities and everyone in them.

Lot's wife got curious about all the noise and commotion back in the city. She decided to look back at the city even though the two men told her not to do this. When she did, she turned into a pillar of salt!!

There are many lessons that we can learn from this sad story. First, we can learn to listen and obey. Remember that Lot hesitated and the men had to lead him out of the city. Another lesson is never to go against God. Lot's wife looked back at the city after the men told her not to do this. She had to pay the price—she turned into a mound of salt! Third, our sin has a price. God could not stand the sin that these wicked people were committing. He had to punish them for their wickedness.

Another lesson is that God wants to help those who love Him. Abraham pleaded with God to save his nephew, Lot. God knew that Lot loved Him and sent two men to save them from the devastation. In the same way, God has a way to save us from our sin. He knew that there was no way for us to get into Heaven with the wrong things we have done. So, He made a way to clean us from our sin. Jesus, God's Son, paid for all our punishment and sin on the cross. He died for our bad sins. When He came back to life 3 days later, He made a way for us to go to Heaven if we believe in Him and trust Him with all our heart. Would you like to do this? Talk to us during activity times.

#### **Learning Activities**

There are lots of lessons in today's lesson. Help the kids see how they can learn something to help them during the week.

#### **Memory Verse Activities**

The two men grabbed Lot and helped him escape the disaster. God sent them to help. Our verse tells us that no one can grab us out of God's hand. He will take care of us and help us if we believe in Him.

#### **Prayer Time**

Ask God to help us listen and obey. Thank God for sending His Son, Jesus, to make a way for us to go to Heaven if we believe.

#### **Snack Time/CleanUp**

Eat fireballs or red hots to remind them of the consequences of sin.

Planning for Lesson 10  
Abraham and the king  
Genesis 20:1-17

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Preschool Lesson  
For  
Sodom and Gomorrah

Teachers: Be sensitive to the kids. Make sure this lesson does not scare them.

We have been learning about Abraham. Remember the fun song we sang called “Father Abraham?” God promised Abraham that he would have a child and many grandchildren.

Abraham had a nephew named Lot. We learned that Lot and Abraham went different directions. Lot went to a mean and wicked city. Abraham followed God.

Abraham had visitors that told him some sad news. The visitors told Abraham that the city where Lot lived was evil and God would destroy it. Abraham was sad and asked God to save his nephew Lot.

God sent two angels to go to the city to save Lot and his family. Lot saw the visitors walking to the city and knew that they were from God. He invited them to stay in his home for the night.

That night, many men angrily knocked on Lot’s door. The two angels blinded the men so that they could not hurt Lot or his family.

Then the angels told Lot that they must leave the city because it was going to be destroyed. They even told Lot and his family not to even look back at the city. Lot gathered his family and they left.

When they were out of the city, fire came down from Heaven. The whole city was destroyed. Lot’s wife heard the noise and decided to look back at the city.

Guess what happened? Lot’s wife was turned into a mountain of salt!! She didn’t listen to God and she died.

Lot and the rest of his family escaped and learned a lesson. They knew that they should always follow God and listen to what He says.

Let’s thank God that He cares for us and wants us to do right. Ask God to help us listen to Him and do things His way.

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Hands-On Activities  
For  
Sodom and Gomorrah

Make salt pictures and remind the kids of how important it is to listen and obey God.

To illustrate how sin invades all our life, bring coffee filters and washable markers. Let the kids mark on the filters. Now dip them in water. The water will cause the marks to blend together. Share how sin in our lives grows until it is blended into everything. It may look pretty from far away, but sin trips us up and causes much damage.

Talk to the kids about disasters (like Sept. 11th). Make sure they do not think that GOD caused them to happen. God wants our best. He does not want to hurt us or make us do evil. Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed because God could find no people who loved him (except Lot and his family). The people did not love God and were doing wicked things.

(Optional) Teachers: There may be one more lesson that the older preteen kids can learn from this story. PLEASE be prayerful about it. The kids need to know what God says, but it MUST be done in a way that is appropriate and serious. The wickedness in the two cities was homosexuality.

Many people these days accept homosexuality as “the way that a person was born.” That means that they think God created them that way and this simply is NOT true. God plainly tells us in the Bible that homosexuality is a sin and is not right, just like lying, stealing, killing etc. are sins. God still loves the people, but He doesn’t like the sin. Just like there are consequences to other sins, there are consequences to this lifestyle too. AIDS has killed many people and wrecked many lives of those who try an alternative lifestyle. This makes God sad and He truly wants to help people turn to Him and live life His way following Him.

Try to help the kids see that this is not a lifestyle that God accepts. Even though it is seen in the world, in movies and on TV, God is not pleased with it or any other sin.

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