

LESSON 12

God Rescues Lot

GENESIS 19:1-3, 12-29



BIBLE TRUTH

GOD JUDGES SODOM AND GOMORRAH BUT SAVES LOT AND HIS FAMILY

LESSON SNAPSHOT

- 1. OPENING REVIEW 5 MIN**
Use last week’s lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.

- 2. BIBLE STORY 10 MIN**
Read Genesis 19:1–3, 12–29 from the Scriptures or read story 12, “God Rescues Lot,” from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

- 3. OBJECT LESSON 1 10 MIN**
Compare

- 4. TEACHING/DISCUSSION 10 MIN**

- 5. OBJECT LESSON 2 10 MIN**
Man Overboard

- 6. SWORD BIBLE MEMORY 5 MIN**

- 7. ACTIVITY TIME 20 MIN**
Lot’s Wife
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ paper
 - ✓ colored pencils
 - ✓ white glue
 - ✓ table salt

- 8. CLOSING PRAYER 5 MIN**

- 9. BONUS OBJECT LESSON 5 MIN**
Pillar of Salt

TOTAL 80 MIN

PREPARING TO TEACH

TEACHING POINTS

A note to the teachers: Genesis 19:4–11 has been omitted from the reading due to the mature nature of the sexual encounter described. The confrontation the two angels of the Lord have with the townspeople is not critical to Lot's rescue. Please read through this passage. If children ask questions about the skipped verses, simply refer them back to their parents.

Sin is a serious thing—Lot's two daughters were engaged to men who lived in the wicked city of Sodom. When Lot was told that Sodom was about to be destroyed, he urged the men to flee with them. But the men did not come and were destroyed along with the rest of the city. God warned the men through Lot, but the men did not listen. They passed up the opportunity to be saved because they could not imagine that Lot really meant what he said.

Psalm 1 tells us to avoid the way of sinners, and 1 Corinthians 15:33 says that “bad company ruins good morals.” People living in the midst of sin or surrounded by sinning friends are often blind to how serious sin really is.

We should not delay to obey—When the angels of the Lord told Lot that Sodom was going to be destroyed, Lot believed them. We know this because he warned the men who were engaged to his daughters. Lot must have waited all night, hoping the young men would join them in escaping the doomed city. At dawn the angels urged Lot to hurry, and when Lot hesitated, the angels grabbed him by the hand and hurried him out of the city.

What a comfort to know that God is able to help us and save us in spite of ourselves. In God, there is always salvation and safety from judgment for those who believe.

God will judge all sin—God is holy and has holy anger toward sin. All sin will be punished by God. For those who are saved, that punishment was taken by Jesus. For those who refuse God's offer of salvation in Jesus, the story of Sodom is an awful picture of the destruction to come.

A LITTLE BIT MORE

Angels

In this passage we see one of the many appearances of angels in the Bible. Angels are beings created by God. They are often used as God's messengers and have great power. They seem to have the ability to travel from heaven to earth. Hebrews calls them ministering spirits.

Hebrews 12:22 NIV tells us there are thousands upon thousands of angels. Psalm 91:11–12 tells us that God sends his angels for our protection; and God sent an angel to guard the Garden of Eden after the fall (Genesis 3:24).

Perhaps the greatest service angels provide is their continual worship of God before the throne. When we die and go to heaven we will join with the angels and sing, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!” (Revelation 5:13 NIV)

WHERE IS JESUS?

How does today’s Bible story fit into God’s greater plan of redemption?

Read 2 Peter 2:7–9.

Here, Peter uses the story of Lot to encourage us in our own struggle with sin. Lot willingly left Abraham, whom God had promised would be a blessing to all peoples, and went to live in a horribly sinful place. Lot seemed much more interested in earthly blessings than he was in the blessings that come from God. But God still spared him, making sure he got out of Sodom before it was destroyed.

Despite our sinful choices, our running away from the promises of God, and our attraction to sin, we too can be spared from God’s judgment. This is possible because of what Jesus did on the cross.

THE LESSON

OPENING REVIEW 5 MIN

Use last week’s lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.

BIBLE STORY 10 MIN

Read Genesis 19:1–3, 12–29 from the Scriptures or read story 12, “God Rescues Lot,” from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

OBJECT LESSON 1 10 MIN

Compare

Read Lot’s warning to his sons-in-law in Genesis 19:14 and note their response. Read the following New Testament warnings. How should we respond to them? Are they as dire a warning to us as Lot’s warning was to the young men who were to marry his daughters? Compare these New Testament warnings with the Old Testament warnings given in Genesis 19:14–22 during a class discussion.

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. (Galatians 6:7–8)

Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. (Galatians 5:19–26)

And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.” (Luke 9:23–26)

TEACHING/DISCUSSION 10 MIN

Using the teaching points, teach through the lesson for today.

OBJECT LESSON 2 10 MIN

Man Overboard

Ask the class “What are the eight steps to rescue someone on a boat who falls overboard?”

1. Shout “Man Overboard!”
2. Throw a life preserver to the person in the water.
3. Stop the boat, check your compass direction and turn 180 degrees. (Just backing up could cause a propeller injury.)
4. Choose one person to keep their focus on the swimmer at all times.
5. Drive the boat into the wind for better control.
6. Tie one end of a long rope onto the boat rail and a loop in the other end.
7. Throw the rope to the swimmer and pull him in.
8. Send a rescuer in only as a last resort, making sure that the rescuer wears a life preserver.

See how well the class does with this exercise, and then ask them about the angels’ rescue of Lot from the destruction of Sodom. Ask them about the mistakes made by the following people:

- **What mistake did Lot’s sons-in-law make?**
(They thought Lot was joking and did not believe his warning. They ended up dying in Sodom.)
- **What mistake did Lot himself make?**
(Lot hesitated, and if it were not for the angels grabbing him, he may have died as well.)
- **What mistake did Lot’s wife make?**
(She escaped with Lot but ignored the angels’ warning. She looked back at Sodom and was turned into a pillar of salt.)

How are these characters and their response to the angels’ warning like us and our response to God’s call to repent of our sin and trust in Jesus Christ?

- Sons-in-law—They are like the people who hear but do not believe that Jesus rose from the dead. They also do not believe that there will be a judgment—that there is a heaven and a hell. They will go on doing whatever they want but find themselves destroyed in the end.
- Lot—Lot is like the Christian. The Bible tells us that it is God who saves by his own initiative. If it were not for God coming to save us we would remain in our sin. Some of us are just like Lot, thinking we have more time to respond; but God has a way of grabbing hold of us and drawing us to the safety of his Son.

- Lot’s wife—Lot’s wife is like the person who tries to be a Christian, but who is lured away by the temptations of the world. They try to follow the Lord, but they are enticed by the pleasures and curiosities of the world and eventually fall away.

Who are we going to be like? God, through his Word, is giving all of us a warning and tugging on our arms. Just as with his disciples, his call to us is, “Come, follow me.”

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY 5 MIN

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

ACTIVITY TIME 20 MIN

Lot’s Wife

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ paper
- ✓ colored pencils
- ✓ white glue
- ✓ table salt

Have the children draw a picture of the destruction of Sodom with Lot’s wife looking back. Once their drawings are complete, have them spread white glue over their drawing of Lot’s wife and then sprinkle the salt liberally over the glue to turn Lot’s wife into a pillar of salt.

CLOSING PRAYER 5 MIN

Pick several children to pray prayers based on the day’s scripture passages.

BONUS OBJECT LESSON 5 MIN

Pillar of Salt

This is a fun exercise. Tell the children to all pretend to be Lot’s wife fleeing Sodom. When you say “boom” they should turn to look at you and freeze in whatever position they’re in as a way to act out Lot’s wife turning into a pillar of salt. Use this as a fun stretch between teaching components.