

LESSON 18

Abram Obeys God

Day 1

Check in with Uncle Peter, Jon and Carol
Who is the highest authority?
Who did God tell to go to Canaan?
Did Abram have a choice to move to Canaan?
Who went with Abram and Sarai to Canaan?
Does God change sometimes?



Day 2

Read together Malachi 3:6a
Spend some time today memorizing this week's verse.
The book of Malachi is very short and easy to read. You may find it helpful to read all of chapter 3. That may make you want to read chapters 1,2 and 4 also! See if any of the passages remind you of other passages we have studied in TruthSeekers, Shine or Worship service. Bible verse memorization is not just about remembering words, it is about getting to know God. God does not change, He is the same today as He was the day He called Abram to "GO". He IS, but He desires to change us and to bless us for His glory. When you pray today, ask God to draw you closer to Him through the study of His word.

For I am the LORD,
I do not change.
Malachi 3:6a

Day 3

Read together Genesis 12:4-5 and Genesis 13:5-9
Do a quick review of the promises God made to Abram in chapter 12:1-3 and remember that at this time, Abram and Sarai still did not have any children but they believed God's promises and obeyed God. Remember also, Abram, Sarai and Lot were real people and they were not perfect. They had many people with them and many animals also. When you put more than one person in a place you are sure to discover conflict at some point. Abram loved his nephew Lot and did not want to have conflict between them or between their servants. Abram was the authority figure and could have told Lot where to settle his herds, but instead he let Lot look around and find the best place for himself and his people. In this way Abram kept what was most important to him: his relationship with his family. When you pray today, ask God to show you how to keep safe what is important and let go of what is not.



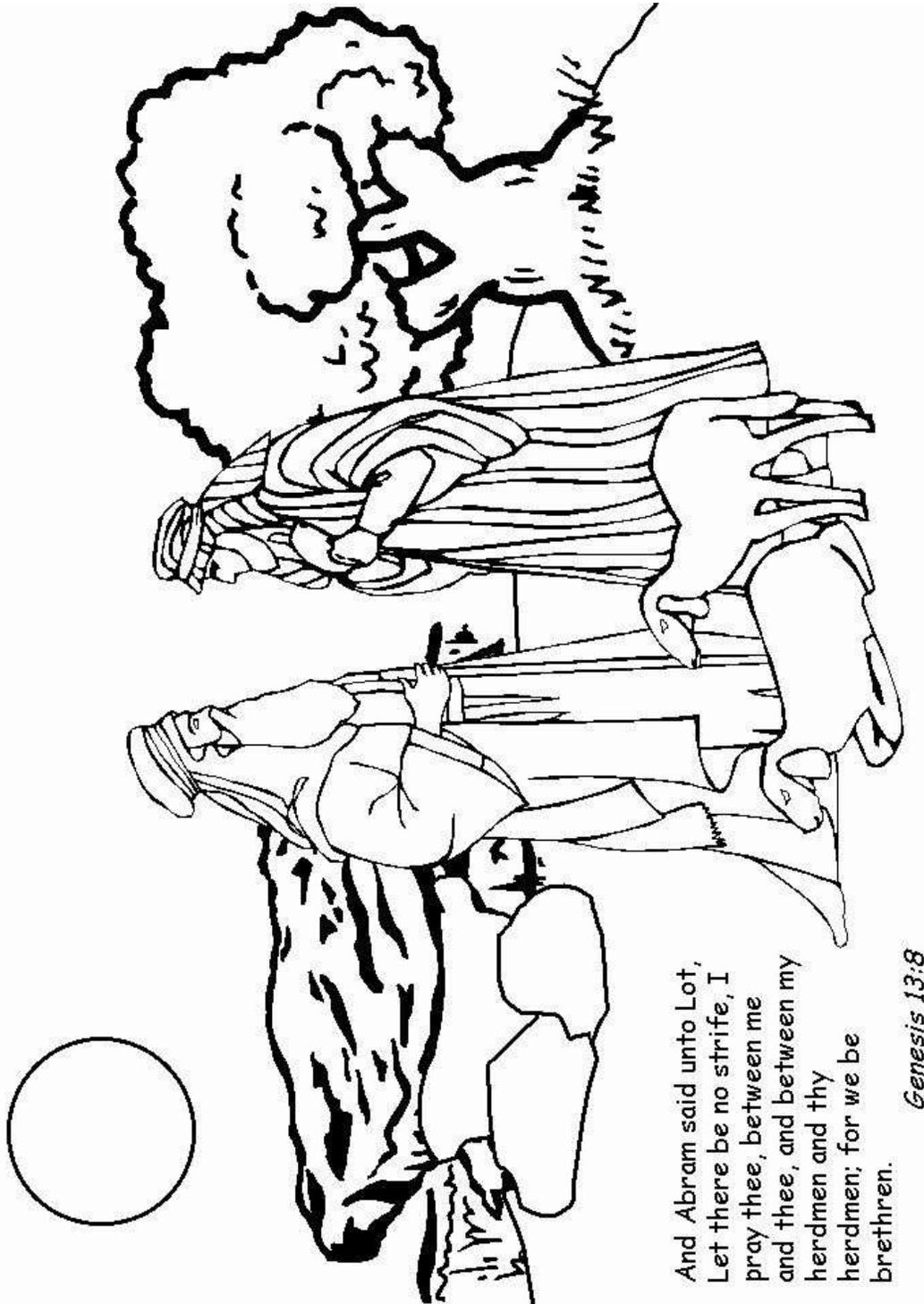
Day 4

Read together Genesis 13:10-11
We can notice something right away. Lot looked out for himself. He chose all of the best grazing land. Scripture says it seemed to him "like the garden of the LORD". Lot did not sit and discuss the best way to share what was the best piece of land. Lot did not pray first asking God to lead him. He did not ask Abram's advice about where the best place for him to settle would be. He chose. We will see later the consequences of making that choice without wise counsel (prayerfully asking questions and getting advice from a trusted friend with more experience). When you pray today, ask God to put someone in your life that would lead you in making wise and godly decisions.



Jeopardy Questions

1. Where did God guide Abram to? (Canaan.)
2. Who went with Abram and Sarai? (Abram's nephew Lot, the son of his brother.)
3. What did God promise Abram? (1. Abrams's descendants would be a great nation. 2. God would protect and prosper Abram, he would be an important man, and through him others would receive good and help. 3. God said He would help those who helped Abram but He would bring evil on those who hurt Abram. 4. God said that all the people of the world would receive God's help through one of Abram's descendants.)
4. Why did Lot move away from Abram? (Abram and Lot had so many animals that there was not enough grass or space for them to live together.)
5. Who mad the selfish choice? (Lot)



And Abram said unto Lot,
Let there be no strife, I
pray thee, between me
and thee, and between my
herdmen and thy
herdmen; for we be
brethren.

Genesis 13:8

(Uncle Peter walked up to Carol sitting under a tree)

Uncle Peter: Carol, you look like you are thinking hard about something.

Carol: Oh, Hi, Uncle Peter. Yes, I have been thinking about God asking Abram to leave his country and go to Canaan. I know you said God had the right to tell Abram to go, because God is the owner of man and the highest authority, but I think it would be very hard to leave your home and go somewhere you didn't know.

Uncle Peter: You are right, but sometimes God asks us to do hard things in order to help other people. God is loving, merciful and gracious. He wants everyone to be saved from Satan's power and from sin, and Abram was part of God's plan to do this. Abram had a choice to obey God and go to Canaan or disobey and refuse to be a part of God's plan to send the Deliverer.

Jon: How did Abram and Sarai get to this new country called Canaan? They did not have a car or airplane or anything like that.

Uncle Peter: No they didn't. They had to walk or maybe ride on a donkey.

Carol: What did they take with them? Donkeys don't pull u-Haul trailers. What about their clothes, furniture, food and things?

Uncle Peter: Abram was a very rich man. In those days riches included cows, sheep, goats and servants. Everyone and everything walked and packed what they could carry on their backs and the backs of the larger animals. They would have slept in tents along the way.

Jon: What did his friends and neighbors think of him just leaving like that? It must have been hard to say good-bye to all their family and friends.

Uncle Peter: Abram was an important man and people certainly noticed what he was doing. Abram did not care if people thought he was making the right choice, Abram chose to trust and obey God. And since Lot went with them there were more people and animals to travel with. They did not have to say good-bye to everyone.

Carol: It must have taken a long time to walk such a long way with all those animals.

Uncle Peter: Yes it did, but God faithfully guided Abram to Canaan, the land that was promised to him.

Jon: It sounds like an adventure to me!

Carol: Yes, I am sure that it was.

Uncle Peter: Let's look in the Bible to see.

