

GENESIS 13-18

WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

WEEK IN REVIEW

We left off last week with God making a covenant with Abram called the Abrahamic Covenant. As a reminder, God promised Abram land (*the Promised Land*), seed (*a family more numerous than the stars in the sky*), and blessing (*all nations of the earth will be blessed through his family*). God tells Abram to go out from his land to the land that He will show him. Abram, Lot, (his nephew), and Sarai (his wife) left their homeland. The Lord blessed them with many sheep and livestock, so much that there wasn't enough land to feed all of them. Abram decided it was necessary to part ways and gave Lot the choice of what land he wanted.

Abram was on his way back from a military victory and came across the King of Sodom and the King of Salem. Melchizedek (the King of Salem) is a mysterious person and he is the first priest named in Scripture. Melchizedek gives Abram and his men bread and wine, and blesses him. Abram in return gives him a tithe (a tenth) of everything he had gotten. After these events, the Lord appears to Abram and repeats His promise to him. It tells us that "Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness" (Genesis 15:6). To be righteous means to be in right standing with God. This shows us that it was by faith, not works, that Abram could have a right relationship with God. This is true for us today! Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast."

God shows that He will do what He promised by putting Abraham in a deep sleep. The Lord passed between divided animals saying that no matter what, He was going to keep His promises. After time passed, Abram grew old and impatient as he waited for God to give him his own son. He decided to take matters into his own hands. Sarai's servant Hagar bore a son with Abram named Ishmael, but that was not what God intended. God appeared to Abram once again to remind him that He will give him and Sarai their own son. God changes Abram's name to Abraham which means "father of many nations," and changes Sarai's name to Sarah which means "mother of many nations." God reminds them as they doubt that there is nothing impossible for Him. God is all-powerful, good, and in control. Continue on with us in the book of Genesis as we see God fulfill His promises!

FAMILY GUIDE

BIG IDEA:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Our faith, not our works, makes us have a right relationship with God.
KEY STORIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Abraham and Lot separate● Melchizedek's Blessing● Abrahamic Covenant● Hagar and Ishmael
KEY VERSES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Genesis 15:6<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ "Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness."● Genesis 18:14<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ "Is anything impossible for the Lord?"
WORDS TO KNOW:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Covenant<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ A really strong promise between two parties that should not be broken.● Righteous<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ To be in right standing with God

Reflection Questions

1.	What were the three things that God promised Abraham?
2.	What was the name of the priest that blessed Abraham?
3.	What made Abraham (and us) in right standing with God?
4.	What do these stories teach you about the character of God?