## Story Time - Read the story to the children Lesson 18: SODOM AND GOMORRAH GENESIS 19:1-30

When the two angels came to Sodom that evening, Lot was sitting at the city gate. As soon as he saw them, he got up and went to meet them. He bowed down before them and said, "Sirs, I am here to serve you. Please come to my house. You can wash your feet and spend the night. In the morning you can get up early and go on your way." But they answered, "No, we will spend the night here in the city square." He kept on urging them, and finally they went with him to his house. Lot ordered his servants to bake some bread and prepare a fine meal for the guests. When it was ready, they ate it. Before the guests went to bed, the men of Sodom surrounded the house. All the men of the city, both young and old, were there. They called out to Lot and asked, "Where are the men who came to stay with you tonight? Bring them out to us!" The men of Sodom wanted to do bad things with them. Lot went outside and closed the door behind him. He said to them, "Friends, I beg you, don't do such a wicked thing! Look, I have two daughters who are still virgins. Let me bring them out to you, and you can do whatever you want with them. But don't do anything to these men; they are quests in my house, and I must protect them." But they said, "Get out of our way, you foreigner! Who are you to tell us what to do? Out of our way, or we will treat you worse than them." They pushed Lot back and moved up to break down the door. But the two men inside reached out, pulled Lot back into the house, and shut the door. Then they struck all the men outside with blindness, so that they couldn't find the door. The two men said to Lot, "If you have anyone else here---sons, daughters, sons-in-law, or any other relatives living in the city--get them out of here, because we are going to destroy this place. The LORD has heard the terrible accusations against these people and has sent us to destroy Sodom." Then Lot went to the men that his daughters were going to marry, and said, "Hurry up and get out of here; the LORD is going to destroy this place." But they thought he was joking. At dawn the angels tried to make Lot hurry. "Quick!" they said. "Take your wife and your two daughters and get out, so that you will not lose your lives when the city is destroyed." Lot hesitated. The LORD, however, had pity on him; so the men took him, his wife, and his two daughters by the hand and led them out of the city. Then one of the angels said, "Run for your lives! Don't look back and don't stop in the valley. Run to the hills, so that you won't be killed." But Lot answered, "No, please don't make us

do that, sir. You have done me a great favor and saved my life. But the hills are too far away; the disaster will overtake me, and I will die before I get there. Do you see that little town? It is near enough. Let me go over there---you can see it is just a small place---and I will be safe." He answered, "All right, I agree. I won't destroy that town. Hurry! Run! I can't do anything until you get there." Because Lot called it small, the town was named Zoar. The sun was rising when Lot reached Zoar. Suddenly the LORD rained burning sulfur on the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and destroyed them and the whole valley, along with all the people there and everything that grew on the land. But Lot's wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt. Early the next morning Abraham hurried to the place where he had stood in the presence of the LORD. He looked down at Sodom and Gomorrah and the whole valley and saw smoke rising from the land, like smoke from a huge furnace. But when God destroyed the cities of the valley where Lot was living, he kept Abraham in mind and allowed Lot to escape to safety. Because Lot was afraid to stay in Zoar, he and his two daughters moved up into the hills and lived in a cave.

# 18. SODOM AND GOMORRAH GENESIS 19:1-30



"And it came to pass when they had led them out of the city, that he said, Run for your lives; do not look back, or stay in the valley; escape to the mountains, or you will be destroyed."

**GENESIS 19:17** 

## 18. SODOM AND GOMORRAH

GENESIS 19:1-30

#### **MEMORY VERSE:**

".. Then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations..." 1 PETER 2:9

#### Review Questions True or False

- 1. The two angels came to Sodom in the evening and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom.
- 2. Lot asked the angels to stay at his house, and they said 'No, we will spend the night in the open square.'
- **3.** The angels spent the night in the open square.
- **4.** All the men of the city of Sodom, young and old, surrounded the house.
- **5.** The angels ran outside and fought all the men.
- **6.** The angels struck all the men at the doorway of the house with blindness.

#### **Questions**

- 1. Where did the angels want to spend the night at first?
- 2. What happened to all the men at Lot's doorway when the angels pulled Lot back inside?
- 3. What did the young men who were ready to marry Lot's daughters think when Lot told them that the LORD was going to destroy the city?
- 4. What did the angels tell Lot and his family when they brought them outside? (Run for your lives! Don't look back! Escape to the mountains so you won't be destroyed!)
- 5. Where did Lot want to run to instead of the mountains? (A small town called Zoar)
- 6. What happened to Lot's wife? Why?
- 7. Where did Lot and his daughters go when they left Zoar?

#### **Lesson 18 Activities**

#### Make Like a Tree and Leave

Gather some leaves for each child in your class (can be green leaves or fall leaves. If out of season, cut out leaves from construction paper).

Have each child draw a tree trunk on a sheet of cardstock or white construction paper and have them glue the leaves to the branches of the trees.

Explain to your class that in today's lesson, angels told Lot to "leave" Sodom. This was probably very hard for him to do as he was leaving two daughters with their husbands in the doomed city. Explain that we should be obedient to God even when it is difficult. God will deliver the righteous, but will punish the wicked.

#### Preserves

Bring crackers to class and an unopened jar of fruit preserves. If possible bring some of the same fruit in its fresh form. Ask the class what would happen if the fruit were just left in the pantry in a plastic bag.

Explain that the fruit in the jar has been preserved. Share it with the class on crackers and discuss how God will deliver the righteous, but will punish the wicked.

## **PRAYER**

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to live righteous lives before the Lord. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.