

eKids: At home with your family Sun 7th March

Today we'll be seeing that Abraham trusts God to give him the **promised** land even though Lot gets the **better-looking** land.

Hopefully we'll learn that WE can **trust God** and **his promises** even though it seems our right choices mean missing out.

Memory verse: **"The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does"** Psalm 145:13

Genesis 13:1-18

13 Abram went north out of Egypt to the southern part of Canaan with his wife and everything he owned, and Lot went with him. **2** Abram was a very rich man, with sheep, goats, and cattle, as well as silver and gold. **3** Then he left there and moved from place to place, going toward Bethel. He reached the place between Bethel and Ai where he had camped before **4** and had built an altar. There he worshiped the LORD.

5 Lot also had sheep, goats, and cattle, as well as his own family and servants. **6** And so there was not enough pasture land for the two of them to stay together, because they had too many animals. **7** So quarrels broke out between the men who took care of Abram's animals and those who took care of Lot's animals. (At that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites were still living in the land.)

8 Then Abram said to Lot, "We are relatives, and your men and my men shouldn't be quarreling. **9** So let's separate. Choose any part of the land you want. You go one way, and I'll go the other."

10 Lot looked around and saw that the whole Jordan Valley, all the way to Zoar, had plenty of water, like the Garden of the LORD^ᵀ or like the land of Egypt. (This was before the LORD had destroyed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.) **11** So Lot chose the whole Jordan Valley for himself and moved away toward the east. That is how the two men parted. **12** Abram stayed in the land of Canaan, and Lot settled among the cities in the valley and camped near Sodom, **13** whose people were wicked and sinned against the LORD.

14 After Lot had left, the LORD said to Abram, "From where you are, look carefully in all directions. **15** I am going to give you and your descendants all the land that you see, and it will be yours forever. **16** I am going to give you so many descendants that no one will be able to count them all; it would be as easy to count all the specks of dust on earth! **17** Now, go and look over the whole land, because I am going to give it all to you." **18** So Abram moved his camp and settled near the sacred trees of Mamre at Hebron, and there he built an altar to the LORD.

Re-telling the story

So, God has promised Abraham that he will give him **land**, many **children** (descendants) and MUCH **blessing**!

BUT.....Will Abraham believe God and KEEP trusting in the promises?

Abraham has LOADS of stuff! Sheep, cattle, goats, **and** people to help him with all the sheep, cattle and goats 😊

GREAT STUFF!

Abraham's nephew Lot, who came with him ALSO has LOADS of sheep, cattle, goats and, you've guessed it – people to help with the sheep, cattle and goats 😊

GREAT STUFF!

But there wasn't enough land for them all and the people looking after Abraham's animals started to argue with the people looking after Lot's animals. Oh dear.

Abraham knew they shouldn't be arguing so he tells Lot to choose the land he wants.

He gives Lot the first choice.

Lot chooses the best-looking land – *like anyone would!* So maybe Abraham hasn't done the right thing?

Abraham stays where he is, in the land of Canaan.

Abraham trusts that God will give him what he has been promised – **LAND, FAMILY and BLESSING**. He trusts that God will give him the land and God speaks to him and reassures him – YES ALL this land will be yours and your family will be so large that no-one will be able to count them! WOW 😊

Pebbles & Rocks

Maybe offer a choice of biscuits – a whole one and a broken one. Which will they choose?

I'd definitely choose the best looking one!

What about going first? Do you like to have the first choice? Maybe you want to have the first choice of toy, book, cake? The first go on the swing. The first dessert?

When Abraham lets Lot choose first it seems like Abraham gets a bad deal!

But he trusts God and God's promises – and God's ways are the BEST ways, ALWAYS!

God WILL give Abraham LAND, FAMILY and BLESSING!

Boulders & Rip Rap

- Why did Lot choose the land around the Jordan Valley?
- What do we find out about this land other than how it looked? (verse 10 & 13)
- Do we choose things because of how they look? (I know I do!)
- What did trusting God's promises look like for Abraham?

- Do you think Abraham felt like he was missing out when Lot took the “best” looking land?
- What had Abraham remembered about God’s promises to him?

Trusting God and his promises meant that Abraham gave up the best-looking land to his nephew Lot. It seemed like he was losing out.

BUT God had bigger and better plans for Abraham.

Abraham was going to be in GOD’s LAND, with GOD’s BLESSING and his family would be so big that it would be easier *“to count all the specks of dust on earth”*.

Think it through....

When we chose God’s ways it might seem like we are missing out.

It might be that we choose NOT to do things God’s ways because we don’t want to miss out on stuff.

What might this look like for you?

Maybe you aren’t allowed to watch a particular TV series that everyone else at school is talking about.

Maybe you want to go to a party but your parents want you to go to church.

Maybe your friends are all talking about someone at school and if you don’t join in you’ll stand out.

What does God promise us and why is this better than anything else we might choose?

Prayer

Thank you, God that you and your promises CAN ALWAYS be trusted.

Thank you for the faith you gave to Abraham.

Thank you that your ways are ALWAYS best because you are a good God.

Sorry that we sometimes don’t make the best choices but choose the easy way instead.

Please help us to trust you, obey you and love you more.

Thank you for Jesus who made a very costly decision when he went to the cross.

Thank you that because of Him we can be forgiven when we make bad choices.

Activities

- ❖ Worksheets (for Rocks & Boulders)
- ❖ Spot the difference (suitable for older pre-schoolers)
- ❖ Maze
- ❖ Anagrams
- ❖ Code breaker
- ❖ Craft (see below for how it should look)
- ❖ Pebbles colouring (showing the 3 promises of God to Abraham)



If you are accessing this via the website then worksheets are available via email – please contact Abby on 07950064272