

Goldstone Church

Small Group Questions

Genesis 18:16-26

For Starting

- What was the high point for you last week? The low point?
- Share about a time you were moved to tears watching TV?
- What would you like to see God do in your Mini Group?
What will you do if your expectations are *not* met?
- How do you normally respond to the weakness or suffering of other people?

For Reviewing

- How many men got up to leave Abraham? (Gen 18:2)
- Summarise God's promise to Abraham in v.18-19.
- Why were the men going to Sodom & Gomorrah (v.20-21)?
- How many men went on to Sodom (v.22)?
- What reason/s does Abraham give for God not to destroy Sodom & Gomorrah (v.23-25)?
- How many righteous people needed to be found in Sodom to avoid the destruction (v.24, v.28, v.29, v.30, v.31, v.32)?
- What was the lowest number of righteous people that needed to be found in Sodom to avoid the destruction (v.32)? Why do you think Abraham stop at that number?
- How many times did Abraham intercede for Sodom?

For Discussion

- What attitude did Abraham show as he interceded for Sodom and Gomorrah?
- Why would Abraham want God to spare the wicked people of Sodom and Gomorrah?
- "*Lot's heart was in Sodom long before his body arrived there.*"
What do you think this means? Do you agree / disagree?
- How is prayer an important part of reaching out to people who are not Christians?
- What aspect of prayer do you find the most difficult?
- You could end by reading together Genesis 18:18.

Genesis 18:16-26 (NIVUK)

Abraham Pleads for Sodom

¹⁶ When the men got up to leave, they looked down toward Sodom, and Abraham walked along with them to see them on their way. ¹⁷ Then the Lord said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do? ¹⁸ Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him. ¹⁹ For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just, so that the Lord will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him."

²⁰ Then the Lord said, "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous ²¹ that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know."

²² The men turned away and went toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the Lord. ²³ Then Abraham approached him and said: "Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing – to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

²⁶ The Lord said, "If I find fifty righteous people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake."