**Lesson 9 Genesis 13**

**The Separation of Abram & Lot**

1. What ways does Abram’s concern over the disagreement and his solution reflect the ways we are called to act?

 A. Genesis 13:5-13

5 Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents,

6 so that the land could not support them if they stayed together; their possessions were so great that they could not live together.

7 There were quarrels between the herders of Abram’s livestock and the herders of Lot’s livestock. At this time the Canaanites and the Perizzites were living in the land.

8 So Abram said to Lot: “Let there be no strife between you and me, or between your herders and my herders, for we are kindred.

9 Is not the whole land available? Please separate from me. If you prefer the left, I will go to the right; if you prefer the right, I will go to the left.”

10 Lot looked about and saw how abundantly watered the whole Jordan Plain was as far as Zoar, like the LORD’s own garden, or like Egypt. This was before the LORD had destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.

11 Lot, therefore, chose for himself the whole Jordan Plain and set out eastward. Thus they separated from each other.

12 Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled among the cities of the Plain, pitching his tents near Sodom.

13 Now the inhabitants of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the LORD.

 B. Ephesians 4:1-3

1 I, then, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received,

2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love,

3 striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace:

2. Can you think of some reasons that would give Abram the right to choose first?

3. Exactly what was wrong (give the verse) about Lot’s choice that would eventually involve his wife, family and his own spiritual life?

4. If Lot had thought that by going to live in Sodom he could influence the people of that city, was he successful? See Gen. 19:4-8

4 Before they went to bed, the townsmen of Sodom, both young and old—all the people to the last man—surrounded the house.

5 They called to Lot and said to him, “Where are the men who came to your house tonight? Bring them out to us that we may have sexual relations with them.”

6 Lot went out to meet them at the entrance. When he had shut the door behind him,

7 he said, “I beg you, my brothers, do not do this wicked thing!

8 I have two daughters who have never had sexual relations with men. Let me bring them out to you,\* and you may do to them as you please. But do not do anything to these men, for they have come under the shelter of my roof.”

5. Would your relationship with God be helped or hurt by a more isolated lifestyle?

6. In what ways do the following verses cause us to realize the eternal importance of big and little choices in our life.

 A. 2 Corinthians 5:9-10

9 Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away.

10 For we must all appear\* before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

 B. Romans 14:10-12

10 Why then do you judge your brother? Or you, why do you look down on your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God;

11 for it is written: “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

12 So [then] each of us shall give an account of himself [to God].

7. How did God respond when Abram responded in faith to God’s requiring him to wander in Canaan? Vs. 14-18.

14 After Lot had parted from him, the LORD said to Abram: Look about you, and from where you are, gaze to the north and south, east and west;

15 all the land that you see I will give to you and your descendants forever.

16 I will make your descendants like the dust of the earth; if anyone could count the dust of the earth, your descendants too might be counted.

17 Get up and walk through the land, across its length and breadth, for I give it to you.

18 Abram moved his tents and went on to settle near the oak of Mamre, which is at Hebron. There he built an altar to the LORD.

8. *Challenge Question:* What one thing in your life might God be asking you to look and see “lift up your eyes—go walk”?

9. How was Lot like the man in Luke’s parable? See Luke 12:13-21

13 Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me.”

14 He replied to him, “Friend, who appointed me as your judge and arbitrator?”

15 Then he said to the crowd, “Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one’s life does not consist of possessions.”

16 Then he told them a parable. “There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest.

17 He asked himself, ‘What shall I do, for I do not have space to store my harvest?’

18 And he said, ‘This is what I shall do: I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones. There I shall store all my grain and other goods

19 and I shall say to myself, “Now as for you, you have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink, be merry!”’

20 But God said to him, ‘You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?’

21 Thus will it be for the one who stores up treasure for himself but is not rich in what matters to God.”

10. What did Abram lose by the separation from Lot? What did he gain?