

## WHERE IS YOUR HEART?

### GENESIS 14:11-24

2/1/26

#### I. ABRAM'S HEART FOR LOT

Genesis 14:11-16 - "So the enemy took all the possessions of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their provisions, and went their way. <sup>12</sup> They also took Lot, the son of Abram's brother, who was dwelling in Sodom, and his possessions, and went their way. <sup>13</sup> Then one who had escaped came and told Abram the Hebrew, who was living by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and of Aner. These were allies of Abram. <sup>14</sup> When Abram heard that his kinsman had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men, born in his house, 318 of them, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. <sup>15</sup> And he divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and defeated them and pursued them to Hobah, north of Damascus. <sup>16</sup> Then he brought back all the possessions, and also brought back his kinsman Lot with his possessions, and the women and the people."

##### A. Lot's heart was dangerously close to Sodom

- Wandering hearts can lead to devastating consequences

##### B. Abram went to war because of his love for Lot

#### II. ABRAM'S HEART FOR GOD

Genesis 14:18-21 - "And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.) <sup>19</sup> And he blessed him and said, 'Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; <sup>20</sup> and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!' And Abram gave him a tenth of everything. <sup>21</sup> And the king of Sodom said to Abram, 'Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself.'"

##### A. Who was Melchizedek

- Mysterious priest-king

##### B. What Melchizedek did

- Provided a foreshadowing meal
- Praised God for the victory

##### C. How Abram responded

- He gives a tithe to Melchizedek
- Abram's generous giving reveals where his heart was at

#### III. ABRAM'S HEART TESTED

Genesis 14:22-24 - "But Abram said to the king of Sodom, 'I have lifted my hand to the Lord, God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth, <sup>23</sup> that I would not take a thread or a sandal strap or anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich.' <sup>24</sup> I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me. Let Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre take their share.'"

##### A. The king of Sodom tried to strike a deal

##### B. Abram chose to place his faith in God's promise

Matthew 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

## **COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What is one thing from the message this week that stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
2. We see that Abram's motives were pure when rescuing Lot. How can we make sure that our motives are in the right place as we interact with others? How can we tell if they are drifting?
3. Melchizedek was quick to point Abram to the fact that the victory was because of God. Who are people in your life that help to point you to God in ALL situations?
4. What did Abram's tithe show about his heart? How does our giving/generosity show where our heart is at? Does this challenge you to think about generosity differently?
5. The king of Sodom tempted Abram with an appealing offer. What are some things that might look great, but are actually spiritually dangerous? How do we prepare ourselves to reject these offers?
6. What is one thing from the message or the group this week that you want to live out? How can the group help you with that?

## **GOD'S PROMISE THIS WEEK**

*"God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?" – Numbers 23:19*

- Abram trusted that God's promise would not change. His trust in God's promise allowed him to generously rescue Lot, but it also helped him to give generously to God and resist the temptation from the King of Sodom. How can God's unchanging nature give you confidence to live for Him this week?
- How has this promise encouraged you in your life?