



BASED ON GENESIS 19:1-29



WHEN FEAR MAKES YOU DO THE UNTHINKABLE

A LOT-IN-SODOM
CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE
FOR AGES 14-17

How to Use This Book

This is an adventure where you step into Lot's story—a man trying to do the right thing in a deeply broken city, who makes a terrible, haunting choice.

How it works:

- Start at Section 1.
- Read each section carefully.
- At the end of each section, choose what YOU would do.
- Follow the directions to the next section number.
- Keep going until you reach an ending... then, if appropriate, explore other paths.

Some paths highlight fear and compromise, others highlight courage, boundaries, and trust in God. This story includes themes of violence, sexual threat, and family trauma, so use it with care.

Tips:

- You can read aloud and vote as a group, or let small groups choose paths.
- Consider reading only selected paths in more sensitive settings.
- Don't rush hard reactions—make space to pause, breathe, or step out.
- Keep a Bible open to Genesis 18:20–33 and 19:1–29 as you read.

Pastoral note:

This story deals with threats of sexual violence and deep betrayal. Some students may have personal experiences of abuse. Let them know ahead of time they are free to listen quietly, step out, or talk privately with a leader afterward. Emphasize that God never approves of the mob's actions, and He does not command Lot's offer.

Guests in a Dangerous City

Section 1

You are Lot. You live in Sodom—a place known for injustice, cruelty, and sexual violence. You chose to live here years ago because the land looked good and the economy was strong. Spiritually, it's been hard. Very hard.

One evening, two strangers arrive at the city gate. They look like ordinary travelers, but something about them feels...different. You insist they stay in your home overnight, because you know what the streets are like after dark.

They agree and come under your roof. You prepare a meal. Things feel safe—for a moment.

But before they go to bed, the men of the city surround your house. From young to old, a whole mob gathers. They call out:

“Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can abuse them.”

Your heart stops. You know what they mean. You know what they're capable of. You stand between the mob and your guests.

What do you do?

- If you decide to refuse and confront the mob head-on, go to **Section 2**.
- If you decide to stall and try to de-escalate with words, go to **Section 3**.
- If you panickingly consider a horrible compromise to protect your guests, go to **Section 4**.

Standing Your Ground

Section 2

You step outside and shut the door behind you. “No,” you say firmly. “My friends are under my roof. I will not hand them over.”

The crowd gets louder. They shove you. “Get out of our way!” they shout. “Who do you think you are?” They threaten you now too.

You feel fear rising—but you still refuse.

Suddenly, your guests reach out, pull you back inside, and shut the door. A blinding light flashes. The mob outside staggers, grabbing at the walls. They can’t find the door anymore. God has acted to stop them.

Your guests reveal who they are: messengers from God, sent to judge the city and rescue you. They warn you to gather your family and leave. [You can jump later into the “escape from Sodom” outcome.]

They tear into the crowd. You try to run, but the path is blocked by panicking bodies.

One of the bears turns toward you.

END 1 – “The Line You Refused to Cross”

- You didn't save everyone. You didn't fix the city. But you didn't betray your daughters or your guests. Even in a terrifying moment, you chose a hard “no” instead of a sinful compromise.

Buying Time

Section 3

You step outside and shut the door behind you. “Friends, please,” you say. “Don’t do this wicked thing. These men are my guests. They’re under my protection.”

The mob laughs. “Get out of our way! This foreigner wants to judge us now?” They shove closer. Someone throws a stone. You realize they’re close to breaking down the door.

You’re trapped: if you keep stalling, you might die—and your guests with you. Your fear spikes. You think of your family, your reputation, your survival.

A dark thought crosses your mind: “What if I offer them something else? Something horrible...but maybe they’d accept it.”

You’re at a crossroads.

- If you keep refusing and risk the consequences, go to **Section 2**.
- If you give in to the terrible compromise that flashes through your mind, go to **Section 4**.

The Unthinkable Offer

Section 4

In a panic, you shout words you will regret for the rest of your life:

“Look, I have two daughters who have never been with a man. Let me bring them out to you, and you can do what you want with them. But don’t do anything to these men—they are under my roof.”

Time seems to freeze.

Even as you say it, something in your soul breaks. You know—even to suggest this is wrong. You are offering up the safety and dignity of your daughters to protect your guests and yourself.

The mob snarls back, “Get out of our way!” They call you worse than useless and push harder at the door. They’re not satisfied—they want the guests. Your compromise doesn’t even achieve what you hoped.

Before things can go further, your guests yank you back inside, slam the door, and strike the mob with blindness. They grope helplessly, unable to find the entrance.

Inside, your daughters stare at you with horror.

From here, several paths open:

- If you face what you just did and seek forgiveness, go to **Section 5**.
- If you push it down and refuse to talk about it, go to **Section 6**.

Facing the Damage

Section 5

You stand in the dark, shaking. Your daughters are trembling. One of them whispers, “Did you really mean that? Would you really have...?”

You break. “I was afraid,” you say. “I was wrong. That offer was evil. I should never have said it. I’m so, so sorry.”

You can’t erase the words. You can’t erase the fear they felt. But you own your sin. You name it for what it was: not okay.

The messengers tell you to gather everyone and get out. You go to your future sons-in-law and warn them the city will be destroyed, but they think you’re joking. You, your wife, and your daughters flee at dawn.

On the way, you keep turning over your failure in your mind, but also God’s protection: He did not let the mob have your guests—or your daughters.

END 2 – “The Sin You Refused to Excuse”

- You crossed a line you should never have approached. But you didn't pretend it was righteous or “for God.” You confessed and walked into a future marked by both consequence and mercy.

Burying It

Section 6

You slam the door. Your guests act. The mob is blinded. No one touches your daughters. No one gets in.

Inside, you avoid their eyes.

When the messengers reveal the coming judgment and tell you to get out, you obey. You run. You escape. But you never apologize. Never admit your words were wrong. You tell yourself, “I was just trying to protect everyone. They should be grateful we’re alive.”

Your daughters hear the message: their safety was negotiable.

Later, in the mountains, after you’ve lost your home, your community, and your wife, your family’s story gets darker. Your daughters make their own sinful choices out of fear and trauma (Genesis 19:30–38). The brokenness multiplies.

END 3 – “The Wound You Wouldn’t Name”

- You survived the catastrophe, but you never faced what you almost did. The pain didn’t disappear—it resurfaced in new, twisted ways in the next generation.

Lot's Wife Looks Back

Section 7

Whether you chose courage (Section 2) or compromise (Section 4), the city is doomed. God's messengers insist: "Flee for your lives! Don't look back. Don't stop anywhere in the plain. Flee to the mountains or you will be swept away!"

You, your wife, and your two daughters run.

Behind you, fire and sulfur rain down. The sky glows. The sound is like the world tearing apart. Your wife slows. She turns to look back—longingly, mournfully—toward the life she's losing.

In that moment, she's judged. She becomes like a pillar of salt. You keep running.

END 4 – "The City You Couldn't Save"

- Nobody in this story "wins." You escape, but you lose almost everything. Sodom's evil crashes into God's holiness and explodes. The story stands in the Bible as a warning, not a model.

All the Endings

Check them off, then read the wisdom that goes with each one.

- **END 1 – “The Line You Refused to Cross”**
 - Some lines must never be crossed—no matter who is pressuring you, and no matter what you might lose.
- **END 2 – “The Sin You Refused to Excuse”**
 - Owning our worst failures—without spin—is often where real healing begins.
- **END 3 – “The Wound You Wouldn’t Name”**
 - Unconfessed sin and untreated trauma rarely vanish; they usually reappear in the stories of those who come after us.
- **END 4 – “The City You Couldn’t Save”**
 - We are not the savior of our cities or families; we can be faithful, but only God can judge justly and rescue fully.

Five Truths You Can Retain

- **TRUTH 1: God never approves of sexual violence.**
 - The mob's desire is clearly called wicked. Nowhere does God praise their actions or Lot's offer. This story exposes sin; it doesn't endorse it.
- **TRUTH 2: Fear can push us toward horrifying compromises.**
 - Lot's offer shows how panic and cultural pressure can twist even someone who knows God into thinking a sinful "solution" is the only option.
- **TRUTH 3: Parents and leaders can fail in terrible ways—and God still hates the evil done.**
 - If you've been betrayed or unprotected by adults, this story says: God sees that as wrong, not okay.
- **TRUTH 4: Naming evil as evil matters.**
 - Pretending that sin is "not that bad," "necessary," or "for a good cause" deepens the wound. Confession and lament are part of healing.
- **TRUTH 5: God judges evil but also rescues in mercy.**
 - God destroys a violent, abusive city—but He also pulls Lot out because of His covenant with Abraham. Judgment and mercy are both present.

Discussion Questions

Because this passage is heavy, move slowly. You don't have to use every question.

1. What was most disturbing to you in this story—and why? (It's okay to say “all of it.”)
2. Lot meant to protect his guests, but his idea was terribly wrong. Where do we see people today trying to do “good” in ways that deeply hurt vulnerable people?
3. Have you ever felt pressure to cross one of your “never” lines? What helped you resist—or what helped you come back afterward?
4. How does this story challenge the idea that Bible characters are always role models? How can that actually be comforting sometimes?
5. If you have been sinned against, especially sexually or through betrayal, what might this story say about how seriously God takes that evil?
6. Why is it important to say out loud, “What Lot offered is NOT okay. God did not command this”?
7. Where do you see yourself most: Lot under pressure, the daughters betrayed, Lot's wife looking back, or someone outside the story trying to make sense of it?
8. What does it mean to cling to God's mercy and justice when we read stories like this that don't have neat, happy endings?

What Are YOUR "Sodom Gate" moments?

Think about situations where you feel pressed, scared, or tempted to compromise—where it feels like there’s a “mob at the door” in your life.

1. **In friendships** (pressure to go along, laugh at what harms others, stay silent when someone is targeted):
2. **In dating and sexuality** (lines you don’t want to cross, situations where you feel pushed past your boundaries):
3. **In family** (loyalty vs. speaking up, being asked to keep secrets that feel wrong, protecting someone vs. hiding sin):
4. **In school / online** (group chats, parties, group projects, bullying, canceling someone, sharing private pics or stories):
5. **In faith and church** (pretending you’re okay when you’re not, acting “more spiritual” than you are, hiding questions or doubts):

Now ask yourself:

- Where is God inviting me to draw a clear line, refuse harmful compromises, and protect the vulnerable—even when I'm afraid or under pressure?

Prayer

Lord God,

Some parts of the Bible are really hard to read. This story of Lot, his daughters, and the mob in Sodom leaves me with anger, sadness, and questions. Thank You that You don't hide the reality of evil or pretend it isn't serious.

Help me see clearly that You never approve of violence, abuse, or betrayal. Where I have been hurt, please remind me that You saw it and that it mattered to You. Where I have hurt others, even in fear or confusion, help me admit it honestly and seek forgiveness.

Teach me to draw wise, holy boundaries and to refuse harmful compromises, even under pressure. Show me how to protect the vulnerable instead of sacrificing them. Give me courage to tell the truth about sin and the hope to believe that You can bring healing even in the middle of very broken stories.

Jesus, be my rescuer and my refuge when the world feels like Sodom.

In Jesus' name, Amen.



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Step into Lot's story—a man living in a violently broken city, trying to protect his guests, yet making a shocking, deeply wrong offer that will mark his family forever. As the night unravels, you'll face choices about courage and compromise.

Inside you'll:

- Walk through one of the Bible's most disturbing stories with honesty and care
- Explore different paths and endings that show how fear, denial, confession, or integrity change the shape of a life and a family
- Discover key truths about boundaries, trauma, judgment, and God's mercy even in the middle of a moral disaster

Scripture basis:

Genesis 19:1-29

Recommended age:

14-17

“So when God destroyed the cities of the plain, he remembered Abraham, and he brought Lot out of the catastrophe that overthrew the cities where Lot had lived.”

Genesis 19:29