# "Everyday Faith"

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## Genesis 19:1-38 (NIV)

- <sup>1</sup> The two angels arrived at Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gateway of the city. When he saw them, he got up to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground.
- <sup>2</sup> "My lords," he said, "please turn aside to your servant's house. You can wash your feet and spend the night and then go on your way early in the morning." "No," they answered, "we will spend the night in the square."
- <sup>3</sup> But he insisted so strongly that they did go with him and entered his house. He prepared a meal for them, baking bread without yeast, and they ate.
- <sup>4</sup> Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodomboth young and old--surrounded the house.
- <sup>5</sup> They called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them."
- <sup>6</sup> Lot went outside to meet them and shut the door behind him
- <sup>7</sup> and said, "No, my friends. Don't do this wicked thing.
- <sup>8</sup> Look, I have two daughters who have never slept with a man. Let me bring them out to you, and you can do what you like with them. But don't do anything to these men, for they have come under the protection of my roof."
- <sup>9</sup> "Get out of our way," they replied. And they said, "This fellow came here as an alien, and now he wants to play the judge! We'll treat you worse than them." They kept bringing pressure on Lot and moved forward to break down the door.
- $^{10}$  But the men inside reached out and pulled Lot back into the house and shut the door.
- <sup>11</sup> Then they struck the men who were at the door of the house, young and old, with blindness so that they could not find the door.
- <sup>12</sup> The two men said to Lot, "Do you have anyone else here--sons-in-law, sons or daughters, or anyone else in the city who belongs to you? Get them out of here,
- <sup>13</sup> because we are going to destroy this place. The outcry to the LORD against its people is so great that he has sent us to destroy it."
- <sup>14</sup> So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who were pledged to marry his daughters. He said, "Hurry and get out of this place, because the LORD is about to destroy the city!" But his sons-in-law thought he was joking.
- <sup>15</sup> With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Hurry! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away when the city is punished."
- <sup>16</sup> When he hesitated, the men grasped his hand and the hands of his wife and of his two daughters and led them safely out of the city, for the LORD was merciful

to them.

- <sup>17</sup> As soon as they had brought them out, one of them said, "Flee for your lives! Don't look back, and don't stop anywhere in the plain! Flee to the mountains or you will be swept away!"
- <sup>18</sup> But Lot said to them, "No, my lords, please!
- <sup>19</sup> Your servant has found favor in your eyes, and you have shown great kindness to me in sparing my life. But I can't flee to the mountains; this disaster will overtake me, and I'll die.
- <sup>20</sup> Look, here is a town near enough to run to, and it is small. Let me flee to it--it is very small, isn't it? Then my life will be spared."
- <sup>21</sup> He said to him, "Very well, I will grant this request too; I will not overthrow the town you speak of.
- <sup>22</sup> But flee there quickly, because I cannot do anything until you reach it." (That is why the town was called Zoar.)
- <sup>23</sup> By the time Lot reached Zoar, the sun had risen over the land.
- <sup>24</sup> Then the LORD rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah--from the LORD out of the heavens.
- <sup>25</sup> Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, including all those living in the cities--and also the vegetation in the land.
- <sup>26</sup> But Lot's wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.
- $^{27}$  Early the next morning Abraham got up and returned to the place where he had stood before the LORD.
- <sup>28</sup> He looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah, toward all the land of the plain, and he saw dense smoke rising from the land, like smoke from a furnace.
- <sup>29</sup> 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.
- <sup>30</sup> Lot and his two daughters left Zoar and settled in the mountains, for he was afraid to stay in Zoar. He and his two daughters lived in a cave.
- One day the older daughter said to the younger, "Our father is old, and there is no man around here to lie with us, as is the custom all over the earth.
- <sup>32</sup> Let's get our father to drink wine and then lie with him and preserve our family line through our father."
- <sup>33</sup> That night they got their father to drink wine, and the older daughter went in and lay with him. He was not aware of it when she lay down or when she got up.

- <sup>34</sup> The next day the older daughter said to the younger, "Last night I lay with my father. Let's get him to drink wine again tonight, and you go in and lie with him so we can preserve our family line through our father."
- <sup>35</sup> So they got their father to drink wine that night also, and the younger daughter went and lay with him. Again he was not aware of it when she lay down or when she got up.
- <sup>36</sup> So both of Lot's daughters became pregnant by their father.
- <sup>37</sup> The older daughter had a son, and she named him Moab; he is the father of the Moabites of today.
- <sup>38</sup> The younger daughter also had a son, and she named him Ben-Ammi; he is the father of the Ammonites of today.

#### 2 Peter 2:6-8 (NIV)

- <sup>6</sup> if he condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by burning them to ashes, and made them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly;
- <sup>7</sup> and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the filthy lives of lawless men
- <sup>8</sup> (for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard)—

# Luke 17:30-33 (NIV)

- <sup>30</sup> "It will be just like this on the day the Son of Man is revealed.
- <sup>31</sup> On that day no one who is on the roof of his house, with his goods inside, should go down to get them. Likewise, no one in the field should go back for anything.
- <sup>32</sup> Remember Lot's wife!
- Whoever tries to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.

## **Jude 1:7 (NIV)**

<sup>7</sup> In a similar way, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to sexual immorality and perversion. They serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire.

### **Hebrews 11:8-19 (NIV)**

- <sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.
- <sup>9</sup> By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.
- <sup>10</sup> For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.
- <sup>11</sup> By faith Abraham, even though he was past age--and Sarah herself was barren-was enabled to become a father because he considered him faithful who had made the promise.
- <sup>12</sup> And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.
- <sup>13</sup> All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth.
- <sup>14</sup> People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.
- <sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return.
- <sup>16</sup> Instead, they were longing for a better country--a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.
- <sup>17</sup> By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son,
- $^{18}\,$  even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."
- <sup>19</sup> Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death.

# Joshua 24:2 (NIV)

<sup>2</sup> Joshua said to all the people, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your forefathers, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the River and worshiped other gods.

## **Romans 10:17 (NIV)**

<sup>17</sup> Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

## Acts 7:2-8 (NIV)

- <sup>2</sup> To this he replied: "Brothers and fathers, listen to me! The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was still in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran.
- <sup>3</sup> 'Leave your country and your people,' God said, 'and go to the land I will show you.'
- <sup>4</sup> "So he left the land of the Chaldeans and settled in Haran. After the death of his father, God sent him to this land where you are now living.
- <sup>5</sup> He gave him no inheritance here, not even a foot of ground. But God promised him that he and his descendants after him would possess the land, even though at that time Abraham had no child.
- <sup>6</sup> God spoke to him in this way: 'Your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years.
- <sup>7</sup> But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves,' God said, 'and afterward they will come out of that country and worship me in this place.'
- <sup>8</sup> Then he gave Abraham the covenant of circumcision. And Abraham became the father of Isaac and circumcised him eight days after his birth. Later Isaac became the father of Jacob, and Jacob became the father of the twelve patriarchs.

#### Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

<sup>6</sup> And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

## 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV)

<sup>7</sup> We live by faith, not by sight.