

January 26/27, 2002

## Study Questions

*By Faith We Live: A Study of the Life of Abraham*

### Abram to the Rescue

Genesis 14:1-24

#### Opening Discussion

1. Have you ever been lost somewhere? How did you feel? Did someone come to your rescue? How did you feel when that person found you?
2. Have you ever had to find or rescue someone? How motivated were you? How did you feel when you found that person?
3. Have you ever wandered away spiritually? Did God use someone to help “rescue” you? If so, explain how that happened.
4. Have you ever gone after someone who was wandering away spiritually? How did you go about helping them? How did that person respond?

#### Bible Study

1. Read the story from Genesis 14:1-24 (good luck on the names and places).
2. What do you believe was Lot’s desire in chapter 13? What indication is there in chapter 14 that Lot was continuing down that destructive path?
3. Compare Lot’s progression from looking, to setting up his tent near, to living in Sodom with these two passages:

Psalm 1:1-6

James 1:13-14

4. What do we learn about the path of destruction from Lot? Where did his journey end up?

Did he find what he was searching for?

5. Abram had settled into a quiet, peaceful existence enjoying the benefits of his choice to trust God. What are some ways Abram could have justified a refusal to help Lot in his hour of need?

Do you ever struggle with those same thoughts when others go astray?

Compare Luke 15:1-10. How does God view the situation?

6. Abram won a great victory by faith. When he returned, he was greeted by Melchizedek, the King and Priest. Abram's faith gave Melchizedek a platform to celebrate, to worship and declare the greatness of Abram's God. In what ways have you seen great steps of faith give opportunity to worship and declare the greatness of God?

7. What responsibility do we, as the people of God, bear for the view of God people in our culture have?

What must we do to change that view (at least in some)?

8. Compare the king of Sodom's offer to Paul's words in Galatians 6:1.

What is the risk when we take seriously our call to rescue the perishing?

What does Paul mean when he says, "you who are spiritual?"

### **Application**

1. Do you know anyone right now who needs rescuing? Write down that person's first name.

2. What are 3 practical things you can do to step out by faith to reach this person?

3. What must you do to guard against the "risks" of rescuing?

4. What step of faith do you need to take for people to see the greatness of God's power through you?

5. Spend some time in prayer for those who need rescuing.