

Genesis 18-19

God's covenant saves from judgement...

1. **the good...** read Genesis 18.1-19:

List everything in the story that you might describe as good...

Who in the story is really good?

Read Luke 1.18-38:

Is God, good to his promises, giving the good gift of a son, still good news today?

Read Genesis 18.16-19:

Even though they're not perfect why might you describe Abraham and Sarah as 'good'?

Read Romans 4.16-25:

Even though you're not perfect how is it that you, like Abraham and Sarah, can be described as 'good'?

2. **the bad...** read Genesis 18.20-33:

What is 'the bad' that God is concerned with?

What is 'the good' Abraham is concerned with?

Is God concerned for justice?

Read Genesis 19.1-9

How bad is Sodom really? Can you think of any parallels today...

Read Genesis 19.10-29

Do you think of God's action against Sodom and Gomorrah as good? Why/why not?

Read Matthew 11.20-24

What is 'the bad' that God is concerned with?

How will God treat those who reject Jesus?

Do you think of God's judgement as 'just' and 'good'? why/why not?

3. **the ugly...** read Genesis 19.30-38

From the beginning of the story make a list of the good and the bad of Lot (you can go as far back as Chapter 13 if you like...)

Good

Bad

Lot seems to be a bit 'good' and a bit 'bad'. He seems to have a foot in both worlds. It ends ugly. He leaves a terrible legacy. Do you have mixed feelings/thoughts about Lot? What are they?

How might you be like Lot?

Read Revelation 3.14-22 - Lot might be a good reminder to us about trying to live in two worlds. In what areas are you 'lukewarm'? What sort of legacy might that leave?

the good, the bad and the ugly...

We need to be clear because the consequences are immense. There's the good and the bad. Which of those two categories are you in?

The problem category is the ugly. Reflect on the Apostle Paul's words from 1 Cor 3.9-15 and pray together: ⁹ For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. ^{1CO 3:10} By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. ¹¹ For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, ¹³ his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. ¹⁴ If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. ¹⁵ If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.