



Growth Group Discussion Guide

Passage: Genesis 18:16-19:38

Introduction: In this sobering passage God visits Abraham to reveal His plan to destroy the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, the place where Lot resides. Even as Abraham intercedes for those cities the rest of the story reveals that the Judge of the earth will do right. Ultimately this passage moves us to recognize the darkness of sin, the certainty of God's justice, and our great need of God's grace.



Into the Word

In verses 16-21 God determines that it is important for Abraham to know what He is about to do in Sodom and Gomorrah. Why is it important for Abraham to know that God is just? Consider: Micah 6:8

What does Abraham learn about God's justice in this story?

Throughout Abraham's life God consistently reveals Himself to be gracious and faithful. How does Lot experience God's grace and faithfulness in this story? How is God's justice related to His grace and faithfulness?

Note: Theologians speak of the simplicity of God. This means that God is His attributes (e.g. holiness, love, grace, justice) and that each of God's attributes is a perspective on his entire being. This means each of God's attributes are dependent on the others and qualified by the others.

Read 2 Peter 2:6-9. The Scripture tells us that the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah is meant to be a warning and an encouragement. How is this story a warning? How is it an encouragement?



Into the Heart

The story of Sodom and Gomorrah is a stark reminder of the darkness of sin and the certainty of God's judgment. What are ways that we downplay the reality of sin in our lives? What are the consequences of this?

How might a deeper sense of God's justice shape your thinking about the cross?

Consider: Romans 3:26

Note: God's Mercy and God's Wrath Meet at the Cross



Into the World

God desires for Abraham to know that He is a just Judge so that he and his offspring might be committed to righteous and justice in their generation. What are ways we can be committed to righteousness and justice in our generation?