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Central Congregational Church
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"
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Learn the Lesson of Lingering Lot

Genesis 19:1-29

Series: Genesis – The Story of Us All

Central Passage

Genesis 19:15–17 (ESV) — **15** As morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Up! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be swept away in the punishment of the city." **16 But he lingered.** So the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. **17** And as they brought them out, one said, "**Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away.**"

Central Thought: Living in a fallen world, as we do, there is no neutral ground, we are either leaning into Jesus and his righteousness, or lingering on the edge of evil and destruction.

The Sin of Sodom

- ❖ The rampant sexual immorality of Sodom was a by-product of a self-centered, self-indulgent lifestyle.

Ezekiel 16:49–50 (ESV) — **49** Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: **she and her daughters had pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy.** **50** They were haughty and did an abomination before me. So I removed them, when I saw it.

The Disparity Between Abraham and Lot

- ❖ Lot lingered on the edge of evil.

Genesis 19:18–20 (ESV) — **18** And Lot said to them, "Oh, no, my lords. **19** Behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life. But I cannot escape to the hills, lest the disaster overtake me and I die. **20** Behold, this city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape there—is it not a little one?—and my life will be saved!" (See also, 1 Timothy 6:6-12)

- ❖ Abraham stood before the Lord.

Genesis 18:22 (ESV) — **22** So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. (See also, Gen.13:8-13; 1 Timothy 6:11-12)

The Certainty of Judgement and the Promise of Salvation

- ❖ Lot's wife and Sodom and Gomorrah remain as a symbols and a warning of the final judgment of the wicked.

Genesis 19:26 (ESV) — **26 But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.** (See also, Luke 9:57-62; 17:20-37)

- ❖ Those who turn away from evil and lean into Jesus will be saved.

2 Peter 2:4–10 (ESV) — **4** For if God did not spare angels when they sinned... **6** if by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction, making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; **7 and if he rescued righteous Lot,** greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked **8** (for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard); **9 then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment,** **10** and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority. Bold and willful, they do not tremble as they blaspheme the glorious ones... (See also, Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:14-15; John 10:10; Acts 2:38; 3:19)