

These questions are for the June 7, 2026, message, “Praying for our friends.” Please read the sermon passage (Genesis 18:16-33) out loud.

Passage Outline

1. The role of Abraham in the world (16-21).
 - a) Abraham is the friend of God (2 Chron 20:7), and the first prophet (Gen 20:7).
 - i. God reveals His plans to Abraham (16-18).
 1. God will judge Sodom (Gen 13:13).
 2. Sodom is full of immorality and pride (Ez 16:49-50).
 - ii. Abraham “keeps the way of the Lord” (19-21) in faithful obedience.
 - b) In Gen 6, Noah escaped, but here, Abraham endures in faithful obedience.
2. The prayer of Abraham for the world (22-33).
 - a) Abraham does not try to control. He does not become apathetic. He prays.
 - i. He appeals to God’s character: “Surely God will not treat the righteous as the wicked” (23).
 - ii. He trusts God’s sovereignty: “Surely the Judge over all the earth will do what is just” (25).
 - b) PRINCIPLE (24-33): “Will God save the many because of the righteous few?”
3. The friend of Abraham whom God saves (Heb 4:14-16).
 - a) God saves Lot and Lot’s daughters because of Abraham’s prayer (Gen 19:29).
 - b) Do not give up praying for your friends! Be persistent in prayer.
 - c) God saves the many because of the work of the Righteous *One*, Jesus Christ.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: We (Christians) are not here to escape, but to engage. We are here to preserve, enjoy and “keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice” (19). In this way we are a light in the world. How are you doing with this mindset?
2. Based on #2, above: When Abraham knew that judgment was coming, he went to praying. His prayer was fueled by God’s character (‘Surely You will not sweep away the righteous with the wicked’), and complete trust (‘Surely the Judge of all the earth will do what is just’). How can you become a more faithful person of prayer?
3. Based on #2, above: God had connected Abraham with Lot years earlier: by blood, and by heart. Years later, Abraham was praying for Lot fervently. Who has God connected you with, by blood or by heart, that you should be praying for? How can we help?
4. Based on #3, above: The righteous offer a saving influence for the wicked. That is our role now (marriage, family, neighborhood, workplace). But ultimate rescue for the wicked comes from the Righteous One, Jesus Christ. Talk about this concept and thank God for His glorious grace!