

Abram to the Rescue

Genesis 14; Patriarchs and Prophets, pp. 134-136

When elderly Mr. Gomez became sick and had to spend a long time in the hospital, Becki and Justin decided to help Mrs. Gomez. Without saying a word, they cut her grass and cleaned her yard . . . and would not accept any money.

All the way home they felt as if they were walking on air. And that must have been exactly the feeling that Abram had the day he met Melchizedek.

It all started when four great enemy kings led their huge army to war against five little cities. One of the little cities was Sodom. Abram's nephew Lot lived in Sodom. The kings of the five little cities took their armies into the Valley of Siddim.

"We can surprise the four great enemy kings," they said. "Let us stop their army and save our cities."

And so King Bera of Sodom led the way. But the fighting went against them. They got lost among the huge tar pits in the valley. Many of the soldiers fell into the tar.

The four great enemy kings knew their way around the tar pits. They soon got to the city of Sodom. Enemy soldiers captured the people,

including Lot. They carried the people and many of their animals and other things away.

One captive escaped and ran to tell Abram what had happened. "The four great enemy kings attacked us. Your nephew Lot is captured along with all his family," the man reported.

At once Abram called his 318 men who were trained to fight. Together they hurried after the four great enemy kings.

Imagine Abram and his little band chasing after four great enemy kings and their thousands of trained soldiers. Surely they would destroy Abram's little group.

But Abram had God on his side. Surely Abram prayed for God's help all the way north to Dan



The Message

*I will serve others
out of love.*

Memory Verse

*“Serve one
another in love”*

(Galatians 5:13, NIV).

where he caught up with the four great enemy kings.

During the night, Abram and his men made a surprise attack. The four great enemy kings thought that they were completely surrounded by a huge army. They dropped everything and ran. They left the captives, all the stolen things from Sodom, and their own things besides. The frightened soldiers ran all the way north past Damascus, to Hobah.

Lot and the other captives from Sodom were soon set free. Everyone began gathering up the things left by the defeated enemy kings. Soon they were tramping back toward Sodom. How happy Abram was—God had used him to save Lot and all the families from Sodom.

On the way home, Abram’s band entered the Valley of Shaveh, not far from where Jerusalem is today. There the king of Sodom came out to meet them. Imagine how impressed this king must have been—Abram and his herdsmen, with God’s help, had done what five kings could not.

Melchizedek, king of Salem, also came to welcome Abram and the others. He was also a priest who served God.



Melchizedek brought food and drink for Abram and his men. The king-ly priest prayed over Abram and blessed him, saying:

“Blessed be
Abram by God
Most High,

Creator of heaven and
earth . . . who delivered your enemies
into your hand” (Genesis 14:19, 20, NIV).

Abram knew that God gave him the victory, so he gladly counted out all the silver and gold and flocks that he brought back. He gave the kingly priest God’s tithe of everything—one of every ten animals, pieces of silver, and gold.

The king of Sodom saw all the things Abram gave as tithe. Gratefully, he told Abram to keep for himself all the rest. “Give me the people and keep the goods” (Genesis 14:21, NIV), he said. But Abram would not take anything. He gave it all back. He was happy to serve others just for the love of helping them.



S A B B A T H

READ Find a quiet place and read your lesson story with your family. Ask: Why did Abram go after the enemy kings? What can we do when someone in our family is in trouble?

DO Teach the memory verse to your family.

PRAY Pray for people in prison.

Tithe means one out of every ten. So someone would give God one date out of every ten dates or one sheep out of every ten.



T U E S D A Y

READ With your family, read and discuss Genesis 14:18-20. Ask: Who was Melchizedek? Why did he come out to meet Abram and his men? What did Abram give to Melchizedek? Why?

DO Say the memory verse together. Then pray for the leaders of your country.

S U N D A Y

READ Read and discuss Genesis 14:8-24 with your family. Compare it to your Bible lesson story. What did you learn from the Bible that wasn't in the lesson story?

MAKE Think about a time when someone outside your family helped you. Make a thank-you card and deliver or mail it to them today. Thank Jesus for that person.

M O N D A Y

READ Review the lesson story by reading Genesis 14:8-24. In your own words tell the story for family worship. Ask your family how you can help each other today.

DO Say the memory verse together. Then pray for opportunities to help others.

W E D N E S D A Y

READ During family worship, read and discuss Malachi 3:6-12. Ask: How does someone rob God? If you had 10 coins, all alike, how many would you give as tithe? How many would you give as an offering? What is the difference between tithe and an offering?

PRAY Ask God to help your family to be faithful in giving tithes and offerings. Thank Him that you have something to give.

THURSDAY

MAKE Make a picture of things for which you are grateful. Show and tell about it during worship.

READ Read and discuss Genesis 14:21-24 with your family. Ask: Why was the king of Sodom grateful to Abram? Why didn't Abram keep the things he brought back from the war? Ask family members to tell about a time they were grateful to God for something special.

SING Sing a thank-you worship song, then thank God for all the things He has given your family.



FRIDAY

TELL Say the memory verse for your family during worship. Tell them why you want to do nice things for other people. Tell about something you did today.

DO Ask your family to help you do something nice for a neighbor. Make a plan and do it. Will you expect a reward?

SING Sing a song about helping others. Then pray for your neighbors.

PUZZLE



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Directions:

The lesson tells us that God gave Abram the victory over four enemy kings. Study the pictures and circle what Abram gave God in thankfulness. Then unscramble the words.