

## Genesis 19:30-38 — Daughters

**February 21, 2016**

Good morning CrossWinds. As a church we are studying through the book of Genesis. Last week we studied Genesis 19, which is one of the more disturbing passages in the Old Testament. In this chapter Jesus destroyed multiple cities of flagrant homosexuals by burning everyone to death with flaming tar. If you are going to go, that is a bad way to go. It was hard to hear and it was hard to preach, but that is the text.

Last week, we didn't finish all of Genesis 19. There were eight verses we didn't touch that we will study this morning. They are also quite disturbing. In these verses we see the horrifying results of Lot's worldliness when it came to parenting. Last week, we saw Lot offered his daughters for gang rape. This week his daughters return the favor and rape him.

When daughters incestuously rape their father, you know something went drastically wrong in the home. Today, we are going to see a little of what went wrong in Lot's home so we can learn from it. We will also see that in spite of this horrific family mess, God is incredibly gracious and did some gracious things for this dysfunctional family.

By way of introduction, let me show you how pressing a problem fatherhood is in our society. Today, a third of all children conceived are aborted. Many times it is men pressing their girlfriends to not keep the children. Far too many fathers encourage the deaths of their own children. Forty percent of children go to sleep without both parents in the home. The parent that is almost

always missing is the father. There are roughly 3.9 million births a year, of those births, 1.3 million are to single mothers. One in every three fathers are not part of their kids' lives from birth. As a society, we have some serious problems with fatherhood. Men are missing when it comes to parenting their children.

It is not just society in general that has fatherhood issues. Godly men are also missing in the church. Approximately 60 percent of Christians are women. If you are a godly single woman, it is hard to find a godly man that loves Jesus. They are in short supply. I know the single mothers are going to give me an "amen" on that one.

Today, as we look at Lot and his incredible failure in parenting his daughters, we will learn a bit about what it takes for a man to step to the plate and raise his daughters right, to honor his wife and care for his children, in particular, his daughters.

Before we dive in, let's recap from last week. God sent two angels to save Lot, his wife and family from the destruction of Sodom. When all was said and done, only Lot, his wife and his two virgin daughters made it out of the city. They didn't go willingly. The angels literally dragged them out of the city kicking and screaming. Even after being rescued, Lot's wife either looked back or went back so she died and was turned into a pillar of salt. Lot and his two daughters were the only survivors. They ran to Zoar, which was a wicked city, just like Sodom. It was a Mini-Cooper version of Sodom, the same wickedness, just a smaller package. This is where we pick up the story.

Now Lot went up out of Zoar and lived in the hills with his two daughters, for he was afraid to live in Zoar. So he lived in a cave with his two daughters. And the

firstborn said to the younger, “Our father is old, and there is not a man on earth to come in to us after the manner of all the earth. Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve offspring from our father.” So they made their father drink wine that night. And the firstborn went in and lay with her father. He did not know when she lay down or when she arose. The next day, the firstborn said to the younger, “Behold, I lay last night with my father. Let us make him drink wine tonight also. Then you go in and lie with him, that we may preserve offspring from our father.” So they made their father drink wine that night also. And the younger arose and lay with him, and he did not know when she lay down or when she arose. Thus both the daughters of Lot became pregnant by their father. Genesis 19:30–36 (ESV)

This morning I want to examine this story through a series of five questions that every father needs to ask about parenting his daughters. It will help us discover where Lot went wrong and how we can make better choices and avoid some of his disaster.

### **1. Who are you going to marry?**

Where was Mrs. Lot? She was dead. She was a huge salt-lick for the deer. She refused to leave the sinful life she loved in Sodom. While the Bible doesn't tell us, I think reading between the lines leads us to believe that Lot married a woman from Sodom. She was an unbelieving woman. When Lot married her, it was probably because she was hot. I don't think he married her because he thought she would be a faithful wife and godly mother. When Lot married this lady he was not thinking of how she would raise their children. He was not thinking about what kind of daughters she would train. All he was thinking about was the fact she was a great looker and her hand looked great draped over his arm at cocktail parties.

Single guys, when you are looking for a wife, you are not just looking for the hottest girl you can get to say, “Yes.” You are looking for a woman who loves

Jesus more than she loves you. You are not just looking for a woman who wants to get married. You are looking for a woman that loves Jesus and wants to be a godly wife and a mother. You are looking for a woman who takes seriously loving Jesus and raising children to love Jesus. If the only thing she has going for her is that she looks amazing in Spandex, she is not the woman for you. Your wife needs to love Jesus more than she loves you and she needs to take raising her children to be little zealots for Jesus seriously.

**Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Proverbs 31:30 (ESV)**

Should you be attracted to your wife? Yes! Your wife will be quite upset if you don't find her attractive. It doesn't matter how attractive of a woman you date. It doesn't matter how amazing she looks, if she doesn't love Jesus more than she loves you and have a laser-like focus on raising children to burn hot for Jesus, keep looking. I think Lot blew it on this one. This is part of what came back to bite him.

Men, your daughters will become like the woman you marry, for good or for evil. If you marry a nag, your daughters will learn from their mother to nag you and nag their future husbands. If your wife disrespects you, your daughter will learn to disrespect you and her future husband. If your wife isn't on fire for Jesus and church, don't expect her to get up early on Sunday mornings and get the kids ready for church. Don't expect her to help your kids with AWANA books. If she isn't fired up for Jesus when she is single, she won't be fired up for Jesus when she is married, especially when it comes to the extra work of getting kids to church.

Daughters grow up to be like their mothers. If they see your wife writing cards of encouragement to her mother-in-law, your daughter will write those same kind of cards to her future mother-in-law. If they see their mother making and delivering meals to those who are sick in the church, your daughter will learn to do the same thing when she is married. It is not just girls that learn from their mother but boys will eventually marry someone like their mothers. The way boys see their mother treat their father is what they will look for in a wife. If your wife treats you trashy, your boys will accept and marry a woman that treats him trashy, because that is what he learned at home. Single guys, if you want to have godly kids and godly daughters, it all starts with choosing a woman that loves Jesus more than she loves you. It starts with marrying a woman who wants to be an amazing mother and raise her kids to be passionate for Jesus. It doesn't matter if she turns heads.

In addition, marry a godly woman that is like-minded about life. Before you get married you need to have conversations with a woman about work, parenting and home expectations. If you expect your wife to work outside the home and she wants to be a stay-at-home mom, you need to know that before you pull the trigger on marriage. If she wants to have six kids and you don't want to be inconvenienced with more than one, you need to think about that before you get married. If your wife thinks the marriage is an equal fifty/fifty partnership in which you do your own laundry and cook the family dinner, you need to know what she is thinking about family before you pull the trigger on marriage. Make sure you are like-minded.

You need to marry somebody that is on the same page as you are when it comes to a your plan for life because it will have a radical impact not just on your marriage but on your children and on the following generations. Guys, if you want to be a good dad, it starts with marrying the right woman, not just an amazing body with a pulse.

## **2. Where are you going to live?**

Lot blew it on this one. Lot determined where he would live based on the size of his paycheck. In Genesis 13, Lot looked at Sodom and saw dollar signs. It was a rich city. He didn't look at Sodom and think about what the city would do to raising his children. Remember there were no righteous people in the city. There was no church for his children to have their faith encouraged. There were no godly friends for his kids. There was no place to worship. Everyone in the city would fight against his relationship with Jesus and his children's relationship with Jesus. There was no place for his wife to find godly friends and spiritual encouragement around other Christian woman. They didn't have a Tuesday morning Sit 'n' Sip. If you lived in Sodom, you were incredibly rich when it came to finances but you were incredibly poor when it came to God. Lot made a bad choice on where to live when it came to his family.

In a few moments we will see that Lot's daughters cooked up a plan to incestuously rape their father. That is incredibly wicked. It is beyond our comprehension. Where did these girls get this sick idea? The Bible tells us they were educated in this kind of lifestyle because they went to the Sodom public school system. They learned it in their Sodom high school sex education class.

They saw their friends living this way. You think I am joking. Look what Leviticus tells us about the Canaanite lifestyle.

You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father, which is the nakedness of your mother; she is your mother, you shall not uncover her nakedness. Leviticus 18:7 (ESV)

Do not make yourselves unclean by any of these things, for by all these the nations I am driving out before you have become unclean... Leviticus 18:24 (ESV)

Incest was standard practice in Sodom and the cities of the valley.

After you look for a godly wife to have your children, you look for a godly church and community in which to raise your children. You don't just go where you can make the most money. Lot was filthy rich but money doesn't matter when you lose your children.

Lot was originally told to run to the hills when he ran from Sodom. Do you know who was in the hill country? Abraham. He was told to run to the hill country and go back to Abraham. He should have gone to Abraham, repented of his sin and asked for help. Abraham was the ultimate in rich uncles. Lot didn't return to Abraham. He moved from living in a sinful city, which was a terrible influence on his daughters, to living in isolation in a cave where there was still no positive influence on his daughters.

We were talking about how where you raise your children determines how they think. Let's look at how Lot's firstborn daughter thought. They were living in a cave by themselves with their dad and she said, *"There is not a man on earth to come in to us after the manner of all the earth."*

What was she upset about? She was not upset because she didn't have a marriage and a family. She was upset because she didn't have sex and

children. She just wanted to get pregnant. She was not looking for a man to marry. She was looking sex and children. Why was she not looking for a husband and a family? In Sodom, the goal for women was not marriage and family, it was sex and children. Do you see how living in the Sodomite culture changed the way she thought?

### **3. Who will your daughters marry?**

In the ancient world it was the responsibility of the father to arrange the marriage of his daughter. Lot failed miserably in this area. Last week we saw these girls were originally engage to two bi-sexual guys in Sodom before God wiped the place off the face of the earth and they lost their fiancées. They were teenagers at the time when Sodom was destroyed. Now they were getting older. They desperately wanted children. Lot should have provided godly men for his daughters to help them have successful marriages. All the dude did was live in a cave by the Dead Sea. He didn't attend to his girls' needs. He kept his daughters at home and frustrated.

Fathers, we have a responsibility to help provide our daughters with godly Christian men as potential husbands. That is part of our responsibility. Too many fathers see their daughters bring home losers that have more nose rings than an African tribal leader and we wonder where our daughters found the guys. Don't be mad at her if you haven't helped her find godly Christian men and the guys with nose rings is all she has to choose from.

Fathers, not only do we need to teach our daughters how men think, how to evaluate men and what to look for in a Christian man but we also have a responsibility to put our daughters in a place where they can meet those kind

Christian guys, not just losers. I know this is touchy in our culture because some of you are thinking arranged marriages. That is not what I am talking about.

Daughters, just as it is your father's responsibility to put you in the right kind of places to meet godly Christian guys, it is also your responsibility to seek out those kinds of places and go there.

When I was in seminary, I found it hard to find single, Christian girls. In all the small churches, the only single girls were older than 60, and they were single because their husbands died of heart attacks. As a 20 -yearold guy, I wasn't interested.

I eventually transferred from a seminary on the east coast to Trinity in Chicago. I heard there was a mega church in the city with a huge singles ministry. I took the time and spent the money to go there. It was amazing. It was like Wal-Mart for Christian women. If your type of Christian woman exists, you can find her there. That is where I met Cindy, my wife.

The reason I went to that large church with a huge singles ministry is simple math. More single Christian girls makes it more likely I will find the right single Christian girl. I needed to take the initiative to go there and seek them out.

In the same way, dads need to help their daughters have a plan and go to those type of places. Tell them to stay out of the bars. It is not likely you will find great Christian men buzzed at the bar. Lot should have taken the initiative to get his girls to a place where they could find the right kind of guy to marry. In the same way, dads need to help their daughters be in a position to find the right kind of guy to marry.

While many state schools have great Christian groups I told my sons I preferred they go to Northwestern College. At Northwestern they would have great Bible courses, and I want them to grow in their love for Jesus. At Northwestern it is more likely they will find great Christian friends to encourage them in Christ. It is also more likely they will find a great Christian girl to marry because there are lots of them running around campus. In addition, they have a great wrestling program and a great coach. Getting my boys and my girl around the best potential Christian mates is my responsibility as a father. My wallet bears the pain of that responsibility as I pay the bills for tuition.

Dad's our job is to not just protect our daughters from the wrong guys but to help her meet the right guy. This is not arranged marriage; this is just good, Christ-honoring parenting.

In addition, as dads, if we think our daughters are hanging around losers we need to have the courage to tell our daughters our concerns with the relationship. It is easy to say nothing. It takes wisdom and courage to say something to your son or daughter if you think they are heading the wrong relational direction.

Dads, when it comes to the marriage ceremony, who is giving away your daughter? You are! You loved her. You raised her. You helped her maintain her chastity. The right guy should have asked you for her hand in marriage. You are the one who agreed to give her to him. Lot didn't do this. Many men don't do this. Let's be fathers that help our daughters meet and marry the right kind of guy.

#### **4. What are you teaching your daughters about their sexuality?**

Every daughter doesn't just learn about her sexuality from her mother, but she learns about it from her father. She learns about her sexuality by watching how her father treats her mother and watching how her father treats other women.

Think about what happened in Lot's life. The oldest girl in Lot's family had the sick, perverted idea to sleep with her father and use him to get herself pregnant. Where would she come up with such a sick idea? Remember the mob rape scene last week? Lot offered to give up his young virgin daughters to the mob so they would lose their virginity but the sexual desires of the men would be satisfied. He taught his daughters their sexuality existed to satisfy the sexual urges of men, instead of to be guarded, cherished and saved for their wedding night and their husband. When Lot's daughters had the urge for pregnancy and motherhood they treated the only man in their life, their father, cheaply. He was a sexual object to satisfy their maternal desires. Lot treated his daughters' sexuality cheaply, so they treated their sexuality cheaply. They learned it by watching their father.

Dads, when your daughter dresses like a tramp, you need to talk with her about the way guys will see her, not just have her mom talk to her. You teach her a chaste and pure view of her sexuality. Dads, when you allow your eyes to wander away from your wife and toward other women, and your daughter sees it, your daughter will subtly learn from that and incorporate it into her sexuality.

Dads, as your daughter gets older she will need more time from you, not less. You need to take her on daddy-daughter dates. You need to take her to

dinner and treat her the way a godly man should treat her. She will want affection. She will want to feel beautiful. She will want to feel special and loved. If she doesn't get that kind of pure love from her daddy, there is always a dumb guy in the local high school who will gladly take your place and use her rather than cherish her.

Dads, you need to date your daughter in a wholesome way. Treat her like a lady so she knows what to expect and what to demand in the way of treatment from other men in her life. The way a father treats his daughter will become the mold she uses to find the kind of man she wants to marry. Every little girl wants to marry a guy like her daddy. If her daddy treats her like trash and ignores her, she will tolerate a guy who treats her like trash and ignores her. Fathers, we want our daughters to marry young men that love Jesus, that love our daughters, that love their children, that sacrifice for their families and that are leaders in their churches. We want our daughters to marry men that will literally sacrifice their lives for our little girls. It is our job to be that kind of man to our wives and to be a man that dates his daughter and demonstrates those qualities in her life so she knows what to expect. Lot failed miserably in this area. Let's be different.

#### **5. What am I teaching my daughters about manliness?**

For a moment, let's think about the plan of Lot's daughters. These girls aspired to get their father drunk. Lot and his daughters barely managed to escape Sodom with their lives. Amazingly, they escaped with the liquor cabinet. They were homeless and living in a cave but they could still get hammered because they didn't forget the alcohol. This tells us something about Lot's family and Lot's life. Lot was a drinker. I don't think this is the first time Lot drank. His

girls knew that if they put a beer in front of their dad and gave him free refills, he would get so hammered that he would do insane things and not remember it in the morning. They knew this from experience. His girls knew he was a man with an alcohol problem. They knew he can't resist the bottle. Lot was a wine-o. Wasn't Lot providing a great example of what it means to be a man? Wasn't he providing a great example of family and home? Lot was a pathetic drunk. Lot was the guy who lives on the couch with a beer in one hand and a bag of Doritos in the other, while all the exercise he did was watch football as he got fat and drunk. That was Lot's definition of the weekend. That was Lot's definition of what it means to be a man. Lot was so oblivious to his foolishness that his daughters could get him drunk and have sex with him two nights in a row and the guy didn't even know it.

This was what these girls learned about what it means to be a man from watching their dad. A man sits on the couch night after night and drinks until he passes out. They learned about manliness by watching their dad, their drunken hero.

Guys, some of you are feeling guilty. Maybe some of us should feel guilty. Do you want the husband of your daughter to meet and marry a man like you? What kind of manliness are you showing your daughters? Do you want your daughters to marry a man that drinks like you? Do you want your daughters to marry a man that eats like you? This is scary. Daughters get a definition of what real manliness looks like and acts like by watching their fathers in action. Men, let's be the right kind of man. Let's not be like Lot.

This passage is an incredible wake-up call that should give us a sense of urgency when it comes to raising our kids, especially when it comes to fathers raising their daughters. This is the last passage we have on Lot. 2 Peter 3 tells us Lot was a Christian but he was a Christian that didn't finish well. He lost his wealth, his wife, and ended up a drunken fool, homeless and living in a cave, getting raped by his daughters and fathering his own grandchildren. What a horrid picture of a man to finish so poorly.

It isn't just Lot and his daughters that finished poorly but look at the legacy they left behind.

The firstborn bore a son and called his name Moab. He is the father of the Moabites to this day. The younger also bore a son and called his name Ben-ammi. He is the father of the Ammonites to this day. Genesis 19:37–38 (ESV)

Let me explain the names of these kids. Moab means *from the father*. Moab literally means incest. These girls didn't just run their dirty plan and keep it hidden but they flaunted their dirty plan by naming their kids after it. Every time dinner was served his daughters called up the stairs for Lot to hear, "Incest, time for dinner." These were sick girls. This was a sick family. Ben-ammi means *son of my nearest relative*. If your mother is dead, then fill in the blank on who is your nearest relative. Your dad. Ben-ammi was just a cloaked way of saying incest. These were not good girls. They were girls that flaunted their sin and the incestuous relationships they had with their father. Only really sick women name their kids after incest.

Their descendants, the Moabites and the Ammonites, became bitter enemies of Israel, constantly trying to destroy the Israelites. In Numbers 22, we read about Balak, the king of the Moabites, hiring Balaam to try to curse Israel.

When that didn't work, you know what the Moabites did to try to stop Israel? They sent the Moabite women into the camp of Israel to seduce and sleep with the Israelite men. Sexual sin was a hallmark of the Moabite nation from the moment Lot conceived them with his daughter and for years to come. This legacy of sexual sin lasted for generations. In 2 Chronicles 24:26 when king Joash of Israel was assassinated, do you know who did it? Ammonite and Moabite assassins. They were bitter enemies of God's people.

You get to this point and you wonder if there is any good news in this story. This is such a depressing Sunday. Where do we go from here? There is a ray of hope from this whole thing but it is not found in this page in your Bible. It is found later.

Does anybody know the name of an amazing Moabite good girl? Ruth! Her story is told in the book of Ruth. Naomi, her husband and her two sons left Israel because of a famine. They lived in Moab. While in Moab, Naomi's husband died and Naomi's sons died. All that was left was elderly Naomi and her son's pagan wives named Ruth and Orpah. Naomi decided to head back to Israel to her hometown so she could be back with God's people. Orpah stayed in Moab but amazingly Ruth asked to go with her mother-in-law. She said to Naomi, "Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God." Ruth became an Old Testament version of a Christian.

Ruth ended up meeting and marrying a guy in Israel named Boaz. They had a boy named Obed, who was the father of Jesse who was the father of king David who was in the line of Jesus.

God is so gracious. He took this incestuous, out-of-wedlock birth, this brutal family that had a pathetic drunken fool as its patriarch and wicked incestual rapists as their matriarch and God took all of this dysfunctional chaos and plucked out of it one lady and wove her into the bloodline of Jesus.

If there is room in the family of God for the dirty Moabites who turned to God, then there is room in the family of God for you and me; no matter how vile our sin, we can be adopted into the family line of Jesus.

The only good guy in this story is Jesus who graciously grafted Ruth the Moabite into his family tree. Today, he offers to ingraft us too. When we repent of our sin and trust in Jesus to save us from our sin and ask him to be in charge of our lives, we are grafted in, just like Ruth. We become part of God's family. We are given a new birth, a new identity and a new start. We are given a new dad. His name is Jesus.

If God can save a Moabite, he can save you, and he can save me.

As we close I want to challenge the dads, especially dads with little girls, to put what we learned this week about parenting into practice. We want to be men who raise our children, especially our daughters, to burn hot for Jesus and be wonderful mothers, great wives and amazing women who teach their children the truth of the gospel to shape the leaders for Jesus in the next generation.



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