



**WEST
SIDE
CHURCH**

Week 8

Sermon Series: Sojourners: Genesis

Sermon Title: "Entertaining Angels"

Sermon Text: Genesis 18:1-15

Study Handout Week of: June 5, 2022

Group Week of: June 12, 2022

Sermon Date: June 19, 2022

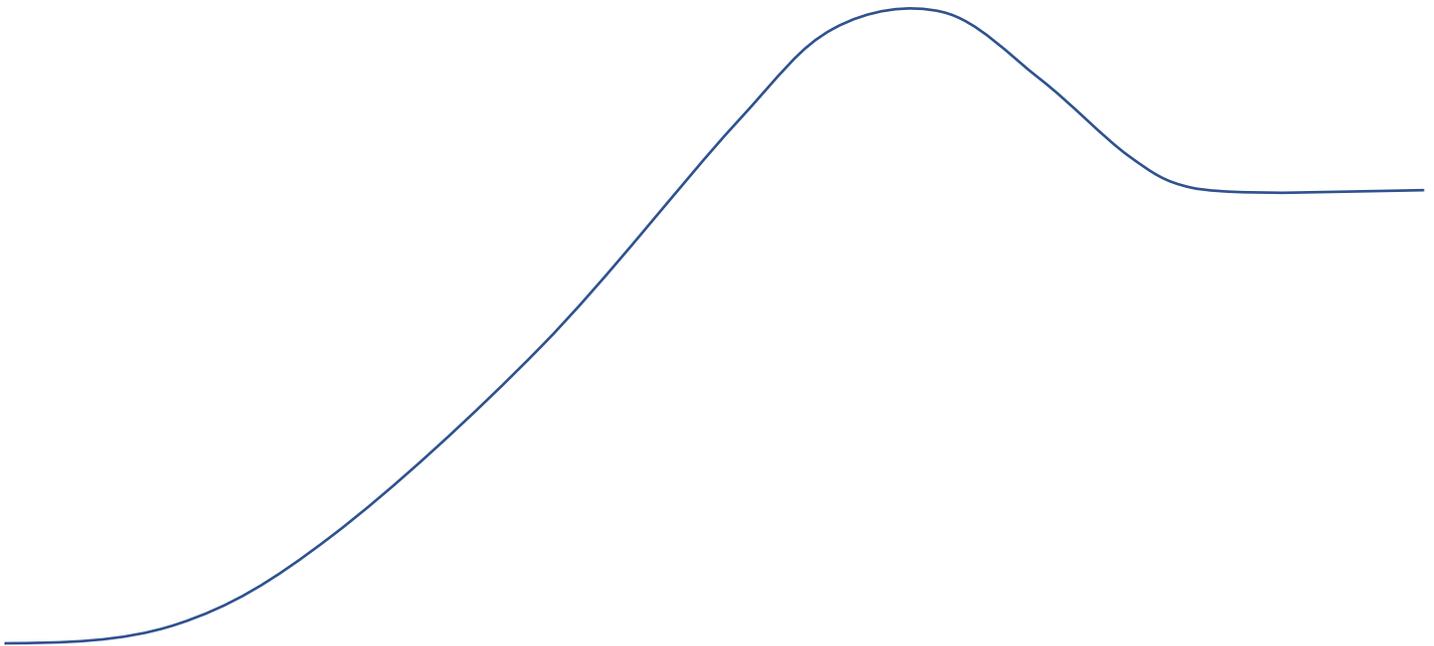
Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies

Day 1	Entertaining Angels – Hebrews 13:1-3
Day 2	Lot's Hospitality – Genesis 19:1-3
Day 3	Sodom's Evil – Genesis 19:4-13
Day 4	Sarah's Faith – Hebrews 11:8-12
Day 5	God's Discipline – Hebrews 12:4-11

The Text: Genesis 18:1-15

Instructions

- 1) Pray for the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to His words.
- 2) Read the passage.
- 3) Using the "Story Arc" below, insert the verses according to how you see the story begin, grow, climax, fall, and finish.
- 4) Write out the main lesson of the story.
- 5) Write out some of the other lessons along the way.



Textual Questions

- 1) What is the central lesson in this story?
- 2) When does Abraham realize who his guest is? Why is this important?
- 3) Does Sarah's laugh show that she believes or does not believe in this promise?

Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) Hospitality was a cultural obligation for Abraham and continues to be so in the middle east today. In our society, it is quite optional. We however, belong to the Kingdom of Heaven; so, is hospitality optional for Christians? Why or why not?

- 2) Abraham does not seem to realize that his guests are divine until they speak. Nevertheless, he treats them as though he was their servant. What does Abraham's example teach you about being a good host? What in his example would be difficult for you to do as a host and why?

- 3) Hospitality is a way of treating others, more than it is simply inviting others into your home. You can also practice hospitality even when you are a guest in someone else's home. What ways can you grow in hospitality as a Christian? Write some down below and share them with your group. Try to commit to practicing these things with both Christians *and* non-Christians.

- 4) Although Abraham has had many experiences with God and even direct revelations of God, Sarah has had none of those moments. She has been following her husband as he sought a promise for many years. What would it be like to be Sarah? To have a spouse who says "I am just following God's promises" even when it does not look like God is doing anything? If you have been in this situation before, share your own story.

- 5) The meal with Abraham, as we see, is not so much for Abraham's sake as it is for Sarah's sake. She is the one who needs to hear this promise, from the LORD, with her own ears. She and Abraham have similar responses to the promise – they both laugh. However, Abraham is not rebuked for his laugh, while Sarah is. Why do you think this is?

- 6) Doubting God's promises is never good. However, God does not put out the smoking wick, instead He brings it back to life. Here, He lights the flame of Sarah's faith (See Hebrews 11:11) with a rebuke. Some of us need rebuke, others need encouragement. Have you ever had God grow your faith through rebuke? If so, share your story below.

- 7) I (Joe Lehmkuhl) continue to meet new people at our church who have been here for nine+ weeks but have had zero people greet them on Sunday Morning. We have much growth ahead of us in the practice of hospitality. Commit to growing in hospitality on Sunday Morning, and in all of life.