

Dealing with Bad Choices

By Dan Jenkins

Far too many Christians carry far too much guilt about their past lives and choices they made which now impact the struggles in their daily lives. They look at the godly lives of other Christians and become discouraged almost to the point of just giving up. If this describes you now or in the past, consider the life of Lot, the nephew of Abraham.

We know little of the early life of Lot. He was the son of Haran, Abraham's brother. The first mention of Lot is in the exodus from Ur. As they entered Canaan, Lot was with Abraham in his journey and even accompanied his uncle when he went into Egypt (Genesis 13:1).

God blessed both Abraham and Lot abundantly, and their flock and herds became so great that this forced the separation of Lot from Abraham. Abraham gave Lot the choice, and Lot saw the plains of Jordan, which the Bible describes as being "well watered everywhere like the garden of the Lord" (Genesis 13:10). The selfish decision he made impacted the rest of his life. In the plains of Jordan was the city of Sodom. Lot not only moved toward that city, he moved into that city (Genesis 13:12; 14:12). One cannot but wonder how afterwards Lot may have grieved over his decision.

Stop for a moment to consider how many of us may make wrong decisions which often lead us down the wrong paths. It is the guilt of having made such wrong choices that become part of the burden of our guilt. Lot is not the only one whose decisions impact the rest of their lives.

Lot was like Abraham in that he entertained angels not even knowing they were angels. You know the story of how Lot foolishly offered his daughters to the men of Sodom—wonder if he later regretted this. The angel forced Lot and his family to leave Sodom and soon Lot lost all his possessions, his wealth, his home and his wife to the fire of God's judgment. Then add the sinful actions of this man in his incestuous relationship with his daughters.

Before becoming too judgmental of Lot, look at how God saw him. Peter said that God "... delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked (for that righteous man, dwelling among them tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds)" (2 Peter 2:7-8). We focus on his mistakes (and often we focus on ours), but God saw his righteous tormented soul.

Do not misunderstand what I am saying. Grace is ours, but we cannot continue in sin expecting grace (Romans 6:1). Do not let your past mistakes overwhelm you. Live right, do right, die right! You will never regret it!

Serving AM & PM today and next Sunday AM:

Sunday Rotation	October 8, 2023 AM	October 8, 2023 PM	October 15, 2023 AM
Greeter	Brandon Fourman	Jerry Thompson	Dustin Desarro
Announcements	Tim Bang	John McGiffin	Tom Muter
Song Leading	Bryan Allen	Jason Bang	Duane Kemp
Opening Prayer/Usher Left	Jerry Thompson	Judah Gasper	Tim Bang
Lord's Supper Comments	Tom Muter	Tim Bang	Jason Bang
Scripture Reading	Rick Ferris	Chris McGiffin	Rick Ferris
Sermon	John McGiffin	John McGiffin	John McGiffin
Closing Prayer/Usher Right	Seth Arrell	Tom Muter	Jerry Thompson

Things you should know about...

We are sending donations to the Disaster Relief Fund quarterly. If you'd like to contribute, mark it as "DRF" or give the money to Jason. The next donation will be sent after the end of December.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Joyce Metcalf 10/9	Sharon Desarro 11/1	Chris McGiffin 11/5
Addy Bang 10/21	Evelyn Rohr 11/4	Linda Whittington 11/14
Dianna Bang 10/27	Caroline Stine 11/5	Duane Kemp 11/15

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You can watch services, livestreamed online via Facebook or at www.greenvillecoc.org

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Men's Meeting: Saturday, October 21st @ 9am

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House to House, Heart to Heart Workshop:

Training the Saved to Teach the Lost

October 25th-27th @ 6:30pm each evening

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Fall Harvest Party @ the Thompson's

Saturday, October 28th @ 3:30pm

Fried chicken provided... bring side dishes and dessert to share

You will also need to bring your own drink and lawn chairs

Kids can dress up in costumes, there will be games to play

and candy, in addition to the hayride to get a pumpkin

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Ladies - if you would be interested in a craft day, please let Stephanie or Chelsea know. If we have enough interest, we will choose a Winter themed craft to work on and a date to spend time together!

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This week's Bible Verse

“For I, the Lord your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you,
 ‘Fear not, I will help you.’” Isaiah 41:13

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**Lord's Supper Reflection**

*To Gain His Joy and Ours*

“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” Hebrews 12:1-2

**Offering Meditation**

*All we give back to the Lord already belongs to the Lord.*

“And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's. It is holy to the LORD.” Leviticus 27:30

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Remember in Prayer:

- *Our Country & leaders
- *Phyllis Caldwell - recovering from a fall
- *Rena Morgan - Shut in, health
- *Ernst & Helen Sherrill (Bro/Sis in Christ from TN) - shut ins with ongoing health issues
- *Larry Bey - dealing with Parkinson's
- *Maxine Jones (Laura McGiffin's mom) - dementia and health
- *Debby Braefield (Alena Brown's Aunt) - health
- *Pamela Illnick (Amie Allen's mom) - health
- *Terry McGiffin (John McGiffin's dad) - health & stability/balance issues, also keep Doreen in prayer as his caregiver
- *Bill Wallace (from Tipp City Church of Christ) - is undergoing new cancer treatments
- *Luanne Listner (wife of Tim Bang's friend) - having back issues, need surgery
- *Tom Cuze (Phyllis Caldwell's nephew) - dealing with a low heart rate and possibly needing a pacemaker
- *Lance Welbourn (DeSarro's neighbor) - recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer
- *Tim Hickerson (from Mid-County Church of Christ) - just diagnosed with stage 4 cancer
- *Jane Topps (Tom Muter's sister) - has skin cancer

How can we be praying for YOU?

Please call or email John (jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com) with any prayer requests or announcements you have for the congregation.

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**Attendance and Contribution Record**

| Sunday, October 1 |    | Wednesday, October 4    |
|-------------------|----|-------------------------|
| Bible Classes     | 31 | Bible Classes 27        |
| AM Attendance     | 44 | Contribution \$1,482.50 |
| PM Attendance     | 18 |                         |



**GREENVILLE CHURCH of CHRIST**  
 CHRIST CENTERED. BIBLE BASED. FAMILY ORIENTED.

October 8, 2023

**Worship Times:**

- Sunday Morning Bible class: 9:30am
- Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30am
- Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00pm
- Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00pm

Minister, John McGiffin

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 Greenville, OH 45331  
 www.greenvillecoc.org

Hello! We are blessed that you have chosen to worship with us. If you are visiting, we would love to have you back with us again. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor's card and let us get to know you.