GENESIS PRACTICAL THEOLOGY | STUDENT HANDOUT

LESSON 11

THE KING OF BLESSING AND THE MAN OF FAITH

Land, Rescue, Melchizedek, and the God Who Gives Victory

MAIN IDEA **God advances His promise through faith that yields rights, rescues the vulnerable, receives priestly blessing, and refuses every rival claim to the glory of God Most High.**

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- Trace the movement from Abram's return to worship through separation, war, rescue, and the encounter with two kings.
- Distinguish Lot's sight-driven choice from Abram's promise-shaped faith without claiming more about Lot's motives than the text states.
- Explain why Genesis 14 is unique in the Abraham cycle and how the Lot episodes frame Genesis 15–17.
- Identify what Genesis explicitly teaches about Melchizedek and what later Scripture develops typologically.
- Connect Psalm 110 and Hebrews 5–7 to Christ's superior and permanent priesthood.
- Apply the passage to possessions, conflict, courage, public integrity, and gospel assurance.

TEACHING OVERVIEW

Genesis 13–14 returns Abram to the altar, separates him from Lot, places Lot in danger, and reveals Abram as a warrior-rescuer. The victory culminates not in self-enrichment but in blessing from Melchizedek and a confession that Yahweh, God Most High, is the true giver. These episodes prepare for the covenant of Genesis 15–17 and, through Psalm 110 and Hebrews, point toward Christ's eternal royal priesthood.

KEY SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

- Genesis 13:1–7 — return, worship, prosperity, and strife
- Genesis 13:8–13 — separation and Lot's choice
- Genesis 13:14–18 — land, offspring, walking, and worship
- Genesis 14:1–12 — war of the kings and Lot's capture
- Genesis 14:13–16 — Abram's rescue of Lot
- Genesis 14:17–24 — Melchizedek and the king of Sodom
- Genesis 12:1–3, 7 — promise background
- Genesis 15–17; 18–19 — covenant center and the later Lot episode
- Psalm 110:1, 4; Hebrews 5:5–10; 6:19–7:28 — the royal priesthood fulfilled in Christ

I. ABRAM RETURNS TO WORSHIP AS BLESSING CREATES TENSION (13:1–7)

Genesis 13:1–7

GUIDED NOTE PROMPTS

- Record how Abram's route reverses the Egypt episode.
- What problem is created by the households' prosperity?
- How does worship prepare Abram for the conflict?

VOCABULARY

TERM	STUDENT NOTES
kabed	
rib	

DISCUSSION QUESTION

How does Abram's return route interpret his movement away from Egypt?

THEOLOGY IN PRACTICE **Where might received blessing be producing competition that requires renewed worship and peacemaking?**

II. LOT CHOOSES BY SIGHT; ABRAM YIELDS HIS RIGHTS (13:8–13)

Genesis 13:8–13

GUIDED NOTE PROMPTS

- What right does Abram release to Lot?
- List the contrasts between Lot's location and Abram's location.
- What is explicit about Lot's motive, and what remains uncertain?

VOCABULARY

TERM	STUDENT NOTES
parad	

DISCUSSION QUESTION

What does Abram surrender, and what does he continue to trust?

THEOLOGY IN PRACTICE **Name one decision that must be evaluated by more than visible advantage.**

III. GOD REAFFIRMS LAND AND SEED; ABRAM RESPONDS IN WORSHIP (13:14–18)

Genesis 13:14–18

GUIDED NOTE PROMPTS

- Compare Lot's "lifted eyes" with God's command to Abram.
- Record the promises concerning land and offspring.
- Why is Abram's walking an act of faith?

VOCABULARY

TERM	STUDENT NOTES
zera	

DISCUSSION QUESTION

How does God's command to "lift up your eyes" answer Lot's earlier act of seeing?

THEOLOGY IN PRACTICE **What promise calls you to faithful action before visible fulfillment?**

IV. THE WAR OF KINGS CAPTURES LOT AND TESTS THE PROMISE (14:1–12)

Genesis 14:1–12

GUIDED NOTE PROMPTS

- Why does the narrator emphasize the eastern coalition's victories?
- What makes Genesis 14 unique in the Abraham cycle?
- Draw the Lot-story bookends around Genesis 15–17.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Why does the narrator devote so much space to the eastern kings' victories?

THEOLOGY IN PRACTICE **How does God's promise remain active when He appears silent?**

V. ABRAM THE WARRIOR RESCUES HIS BROTHER (14:13–16)

Genesis 14:13–16

GUIDED NOTE PROMPTS

- What motivates Abram to act?
- Record what the 318 men are and what not to infer from the number.
- How is this rescue different from conquest for wealth?

VOCABULARY

TERM	STUDENT NOTES
hanikim	
ivri	

DISCUSSION QUESTION

What makes Abram's appearance as a warrior unique in his cycle?

THEOLOGY IN PRACTICE **Identify a rescue responsibility that requires courage without self-promotion.**

VI. MELCHIZEDEK BLESSES; ABRAM REFUSES SODOM'S CLAIM (14:17–24)

Genesis 14:17–24

GUIDED NOTE PROMPTS

- Contrast Melchizedek's first word with the king of Sodom's first demand.
- Record what Genesis explicitly says about Melchizedek.
- Why does Abram tithe and then refuse Sodom's goods?
- List interpretations the lesson labels speculative.

VOCABULARY

TERM	STUDENT NOTES
Malki-tsedeq	
El Elyon	
qoneh	
kohen	

DISCUSSION QUESTION

How does the speech of each king reveal his spiritual posture?

THEOLOGY IN PRACTICE **What gain should be refused if accepting it would obscure God's glory or compromise witness?**

VII. MELCHIZEDEK POINTS FORWARD TO CHRIST'S ROYAL PRIESTHOOD

Psalm 110:1, 4; Hebrews 5:5–10; 6:19–7:28

GUIDED NOTE PROMPTS

- How does Psalm 110 develop Genesis 14?
- List Hebrews 7's three main arguments from Genesis.
- What is meant by typology based on Genesis's silence?
- How does Christ surpass the type?

VOCABULARY

TERM	STUDENT NOTES
diēnekes / permanent priesthood	

DISCUSSION QUESTION

How does Hebrews reason from what Genesis says and does not say?

THEOLOGY IN PRACTICE **Draw near to God through Christ's permanent priesthood. What fear or guilt must be brought to Him?**

THEOLOGY IN PRACTICE

SPHERE	APPLICATION PROMPT
Personal	Where must I yield a right, reject a corrupting advantage, or trust an unseen promise?
Family	How can our household combine peacemaking, loyalty, courage, and generosity?
Church	How can our congregation receive resources without allowing patrons to claim ownership of God's work?
Ministry	How can we credit God for victory while honoring the real labor and legitimate claims of coworkers?

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- How does returning to the altar reshape Abram after Egypt?
- What is the difference between yielding rights and abandoning responsibility?
- How does Lot's location become a theological warning?
- Why is Abram's warrior role unique, and what limits should govern its application?
- How do the two kings offer rival interpretations of Abram's victory?
- Why is Melchizedek a type of Christ rather than the preincarnate Christ?
- How does Jesus' permanent priesthood give confidence to draw near to God?

PERSONAL NOTES

KEY TAKEAWAYS

One truth about God:

One truth about humanity:

One key interpretive insight:

One connection to Christ or the gospel:

One remaining question:

One response of faith or obedience:

FINAL SUMMARY **Complete after the session: Genesis 13–14 teaches that**

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RESOURCES USED

- The biblical text: Genesis 13:1–14:24; Psalm 110:1, 4; Hebrews 5:5–10; 6:19–7:28.
- Kenneth A. Mathews, Genesis 11:27–50:26, New American Commentary, vol. 1B, Genesis 13–14.
- Victor P. Hamilton, The Book of Genesis, Chapters 1–17, New International Commentary on the Old Testament, Genesis 13–14.
- No additional outside source was used.