

Abraham Is Kind to Lot

Genesis 13:1-11

“Me first! Me first!” Did you ever hear anyone say that? All of us like to be first, but the kind thing is to let others go first. The Bible tells us about a man who let someone else go first.

Abraham was a very rich man. He had lots and lots of gold and silver and many cattle and sheep too. One of his relatives lived with him, and he was rich like Abraham. His name was Lot. Both Abraham and Lot had many people working for them.

After a while, the two men had so many cattle and sheep that there wasn't enough room for all of them. Abraham's helpers and Lot's helpers began to quarrel with each other.

“Get your master's cattle off our master's land!” Abraham's helpers would shout.

“YOUR land!” Lot's helpers would shout back. “It's as much OUR master's land as it is your master's! You ALWAYS take the best grass for your cattle and sheep.”

“You're selfish!” Abraham's helpers would yell.

Every day it was like that. The more animals Abraham and Lot had, the more crowded the land became and the more their helpers argued with each other.

One day Abraham said to Lot, “We must do something about all this quarrelling between our helpers. God has given us much land. You choose which part you want to live in, and I will take whatever is left. Then both of us will have enough room for ourselves and our animals.”

Lot looked out over the land. On this side, he could see beautiful green grass and trees and a river. That would be a wonderful place for all his animals. There was plenty of grass to eat and water to drink and trees for shade when the weather got hot.

Then Lot looked on the other side. He could see lots of rocks and sand and only a few little tufts of grass.

“I'll take this part,” said Lot, pointing toward all the green grass and trees and the sparkling river.

Kind Abraham let Lot make the first choice, and selfish Lot chose the best land for himself. So Lot and his helpers took all their animals and went to the place he had chosen, the part of the land that kind Abraham had let him select for his very own.

Bible Verse to Learn

“And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.” Ephesians 4:32.