What Happens When You Choose Self?

Genesis 13:1-13; 19:1-26 *Dysfunctional Families* Pastor Phil Winfield June 21, 2015

What can we learn from Lot? - "Lot chose for himself" (13:11).

- He chose for himself for mainly <u>financial</u> and <u>personal</u> reasons and not spiritual (v.10-11)
 - a. It would solve an **immediate problem**. (13:6-7).
 - b. It would be a good **<u>financial</u>** decision.
 - c. It was a **beautiful place** v.10.
- 2) He chose for himself without regard for the **<u>sinful culture</u>** (v.13).
 - a. Sodom was very **proud**, very well fed, very idle, very indifferent, very **self-centered**.
 - b. Sodom <u>committed</u> and <u>approved</u> of abominations (19:1-11)
- 3) He chose for himself without regard for his family. What did Lot fail to consider?
 - a. He was separating himself from any **spiritual mentor**.
 - b. He failed to separate himself from the **evil around** him (13:12).
 - c. He failed to see that his compromise made him lose any **<u>righteous</u> <u>influence</u>** in Sodom. 19.9
 - d. He failed to see the influence that Sodom had <u>on his children</u>. 19:14
 - e. He failed to lead his wife (Gen 19:26)
- He chose for himself and he left a legacy of <u>disaster</u> and <u>malice</u> in his family (Chapter 19).

Does this have anything to do with us today? 1 Co 10:11 *Now all these things happened to them as <u>examples</u>, and they were written for our <u>admonition</u>, <i>upon whom the ends of the ages have come.* <u>12</u> *Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.*

Fathers (Men) – two important suggestions:

 Look to God to find out his will and his plan; don't trust your <u>heart's</u> <u>desires</u>.

Look for a **godly man** to help you stay in God's will. He is your accountability partner.