

STAYING CONNECTED

THE IMPORTANCE OF CONNECTION

- A. Connections we value
 - 1. Having your phone with you
 - 2. Having access to WiFi
 - 3. Connection with loved ones
- B. Our most valuable connection is with the Lord
 - 1. A connection we began by faith
 - 2. A connection that must be maintained
 - 3. Staying connected was a concern of Paul's (*1 Thessalonians 3:5-8 NLT*)

ABRAHAM AND LOT AND THE POWER OF INFLUENCE AND ENVIRONMENT ***(Genesis 13:1-5, 7-9, 11-13 CSB)***

- A. Abraham was a godly influence on Lot
 - 1. He had a strong connection to God
 - 2. Built an altar, an environment for worship
 - 3. Called on the name of the Lord - prayers and identity
 - 4. Lived a blessed unselfish life - giving Lot first choice
- B. When Lot separated from Abraham, it impacted him
 - 1. Chose what appeared to be the best land for himself - selfish motive
 - 2. He went from a godly environment to near Sodom
 - 3. He wound up living in Sodom (*2 Peter 2:7-8 NLT*)

STAYING CONNECTED TO THE LORD (*Hebrews 10:23-25 CSB*)

- A. Do not underestimate the power of influence and environment
 - 1. What you see and hear impacts you positively or negatively
 - 2. Choose to be a part of an environment of encouragement
- B. Do not underestimate the power of your words
 - 1. Hebrew believers told to hold fast on their confession of hope
 - 2. Connecting with the Lord through your words
 - 3. Speak life to your relationship with the Lord