



LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE



APRIL 19, 2026

Dive In (10 Minutes)

Go around and let everyone share...

Think of a time you experienced a "big win" (a promotion, a personal achievement, or a conflict resolved). What was the first temptation you felt immediately afterward?

Dig Deep (40 Minutes)

Read Genesis 14:17-24 aloud.

Background and Context

- Four powerful eastern kings (led by Chedorlaomer) invaded the region to suppress a rebellion by five local kings, including the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah.
- During the chaos, Abram's nephew, Lot, was taken captive. When Abram heard the news, he didn't wait for a divine sign—he gathered 318 "trained men" born in his household and staged a daring night raid.
- Abram successfully rescued Lot and recovered all the stolen goods. As he returns from battle, he is met by two figures who represent two completely different paths: Melchizedek (the King of Salem) and the King of Sodom.
- Melchizedek is what theologians call a "type" of Christ. A "type" is a person or event in the Old Testament that foreshadows a greater reality in the New Testament. Though he only appears in three verses here, the Book of Hebrews (specifically chapter 7) spends a great deal of time explaining why this meeting was one of the most significant moments in the life of Abram.
- Melchizedek shows that there was a priestly order outside of the Levitical priesthood (the descendants of Abram). It supports the argument that Jesus' priesthood is superior to the Old Testament sacrificial system.



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Discussion Questions

- Melchizedek's name means "King of Righteousness," and Salem means "Peace." He brings bread, wine, and a blessing. What is Melchizedek's primary focus in verses 19-20?
- Contrast this with the King of Sodom's approach in verse 21. What is he interested in? How does his "offer" differ from Melchizedek's "blessing"?
- Abram gives Melchizedek a tenth of everything. Since this is before the Mosaic Law was established, what does this gesture say about Abram's view of God?
- By Abram giving a tenth to Melchizedek, what is he acknowledging about Melchizedek's status?
- If Melchizedek is a preview of Jesus, what does this tell us about our own "tithes" or offerings to God today?
- Why was it important to Abram that the King of Sodom couldn't claim, "I have made Abram rich"?

Do Big (10 Minutes)

- Abram was very careful about who got the credit for his success (v. 23). In your life, who gets the credit for your "wins"? How can you practically acknowledge God's hand in your achievements this week?
- Abram was careful to ensure God got the glory for his success. In your current workplace or social circle, how do you balance being excellent at what you do while remaining humble about the source of your strength?