

<b>A</b>	<p><b><u>“Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening”</u></b></p> <p>(Introduction of related scriptural passages)</p>	<p>1Sam 3:9          Gen 13-14</p>
<b>B</b>	<p><b><u>God’s Chosen People</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ God established the nation of Israel through Abraham; through one nation blessing is brought to all nations. This is to reveal God’s salvific plan fulfilled through a chosen community. The chosen community in the OT foretells the Church in the NT. Salvation does not come from individual effort nor from simply accepting “Jesus as one’s personal savior”.</li> </ul>	<p>HA p 15          LG 9</p>
<b>C</b>	<p><b><u>About Abraham</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Though Abram was “was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold”, his most precious possession was God. His return from Egypt to Bethel, where he built the altar and cried out God’s name, signifies his repentance for his sins in Egypt and his determination to begin anew.</li> <li>▪ Abram avoided conflicts with Lot as he valued his family above all things. (How often have we indulged in conflicts or arguments because of power, status or wealth?)</li> <li>▪ Abram bravely saved Lot, his family member, from the four kings. (how often people would feel “avenged” when they see their family members suffered due to their disobedience)</li> <li>▪ Walking closely with God; living in God.</li> </ul>	<p>Gen 13          HA p 20, 134</p> <p>Gen 13:5-13          HA p20-139</p> <p>Gen 14:1-16          HA p21</p> <p>HA p 22</p>
<b>D</b>	<p><b><u>The Promised Land</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ God used tangible things to strengthen Abraham’s faith. This can be compared to God using the rainbow as a sign of his promise and the covenant with Noah.</li> <li>▪ In the same way, God strengthens our faith through Sacraments.</li> </ul>	<p>Gen 13:14-17          HA p 135</p>
<b>E</b>	<p><b><u>Faith</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The altar built in The Promised Land is a sign of trust and thanksgiving to God, and a reflection of Abraham’s faith: he trusts in God’s promise and a future that is unseen and yet to be fulfilled. His faith is comparable with Noah’s building of the Ark.</li> <li>▪ Faith is “the proof of something unseen” – only within faith that reason can reconcile with the unseen reality. In Sacraments, we are able to see the invisible reality through the visible signs and faith. Just as Noah sees God’s invisible promise through the visible Ark – the great flood.</li> <li>▪ Faith connects the present and future. In faith, God’s promise is</li> </ul>	<p>Gen 13:18          HA p 135</p> <p>BXVI On          Christian HO “C”          #7          HA 135, Heb          11:1</p>

	not only fulfilled in the future but its effect is already taking place in the present time and space. The essence of the Sacraments does not only manifest in the future but in the present, too.	
<b>F</b>	<p><b><u>Who was Melchizedek?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Melchizedek, meaning “king of righteousness” was the Priest and King of Jerusalem.</li> <li>▪ According to Jewish Tradition, he was believed to be Shem. In other words, Shem, the first born of the Noah family after receiving Noah’s blessing became the High Priest, gave the blessing and authority he received from Noah to Abraham.</li> <li>▪ The priesthood of Melchizedek, who offered bread and wine has far surpassed the Leviticute priesthood. He prefigures Jesus, who is “a priest for ever according to the order of Melchizedek” (Ps 110:4). In the Heavenly Jerusalem, Jesus offered his body and life through the offering of bread and wine.</li> </ul>	<p>Gen 14: 17-20          Fathers p 279-280          HA p 18-19          Heb 7:2</p> <p>Gen 9: 26</p> <p>Heb 7:11-19</p>
<b>G</b>	<p><b><u>The Temptation of Sodom</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ This is comparable to the temptation of Jesus.</li> </ul>	<p>Gen 14: 21-24</p> <p>HA p 136</p>