



Learn to Manage Conflict Well

*Thrive*

Genesis 13



# Genesis 13:1

So Abram left Egypt and traveled north into the Negev, along with his wife and Lot and all that they owned.



# Genesis 13:2

(Abram was very rich in livestock,  
silver, and gold.)



# Genesis 13:3

From the Negev, they continued traveling by stages toward Bethel, and they pitched their tents between Bethel and Ai, where they had camped before.



# Genesis 13:4

This was the same place where  
Abram had built the altar, and  
there he worshiped the Lord again.



# Genesis 13:5

Lot, who was traveling with Abram, had also become very wealthy with flocks of sheep and goats, herds of cattle, and many tents.



# Genesis 13:6

But the land could not support  
both Abram and Lot with all  
their flocks and herds living so  
close together.



# Genesis 13:7

So disputes broke out between the herdsmen of Abram and Lot. (At that time Canaanites and Perizzites were also living in the land.)



# Genesis 13:8

Finally Abram said to Lot, “Let’s not allow this conflict to come between us or our herdsmen. After all, we are close relatives!



# Genesis 13:9

The whole countryside is open to you. Take your choice of any section of the land you want, and we will separate. If you want the land to the left, then I'll take the land on the right. If you prefer the land on the right, then I'll go to the left."



# Genesis 13:10

Lot took a long look at the fertile plains of the Jordan Valley in the direction of Zoar. The whole area was well watered everywhere, like the garden of the Lord or the beautiful land of Egypt. (This was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.)



# Genesis 13:11

Lot chose for himself the whole Jordan Valley to the east of them. He went there with his flocks and servants and parted company with his uncle Abram.



# Genesis 13:12

So Abram settled in the land of Canaan, and Lot moved his tents to a place near Sodom and settled among the cities of the plain.



# Genesis 13:13

But the people of this area were  
extremely wicked and constantly  
sinned against the Lord.



# Genesis 13:14

After Lot had gone, the Lord said to Abram, “Look as far as you can see in every direction—north and south, east and west.



# Genesis 13:15

I am giving all this land, as far  
as you can see, to you and  
your descendants as a  
permanent possession.



# Genesis 13:16

And I will give you so many  
descendants that, like the  
dust of the earth, they  
cannot be counted!



# Genesis 13:17

Go and walk through the land  
in every direction, for I am  
giving it to you.”



# Genesis 13:18

So Abram moved his camp to Hebron and settled near the oak grove belonging to Mamre. There he built another altar to the Lord.





Learn to Manage Conflict Well

*Thrive*

Genesis 13



# Principle #1

Conflict is a part of life; it is  
neither good nor bad.

It is what we do with conflict  
and how we behave during it  
that makes the result of conflict  
good or bad.



# Types of Conflicts

- Conflicts of values, beliefs, or goals.
- Conflicts of personalities or perceptions.
- Conflicts of systems, rules, or regulations.



# The Characteristics of Constructive Conflict



# Both Parties

- Change, adjust, & compromise.
- Listen to learn and understand.
- Communicate with the intent to clarify and restate.
- Refuse to stay stuck in the same conflicts; as they grow the conflicts move and change.



# Both Parties

- Experience increased worth and appreciation on the team.
- Are positively relationship focused.
- Are empathetic.
- Are primarily cooperative, an egalitarian relationship.



# **The Characteristics of Destructive Conflict**



# Both Parties

- Are rigid, inflexible, & insistent on a specific way (their own).
- Seek to defend their position.
- Are in it to win it regardless of the cost.
- Continue to get stuck in the same types of conflicts.



# Both Parties

- Experience increased anger, fear, or insecurity.
- Show consistency of a "fight pattern" or a "flight pattern".
- Are looking out for their own self interests.



# **Both Parties**

- **Use demanding or inappropriate verbal and non-verbal communication.**
- **Exhibit predominantly competitive or destructive tactics marked by domination or stubbornness.**



# Principle #1

Conflict is a part of life; it is  
neither good nor bad.

It is what we do with conflict  
and how we behave during it  
that makes the result of conflict  
good or bad.



# Principle #2

Choosing to faithfully follow God and His plan will always result in conflict of some sort.



# Genesis 13:1

So Abram left Egypt and traveled north into the Negev, along with his wife and Lot and all that they owned.



# Principle #3

Conflict is the result of obstacles and problems that need to be resolved.



# Genesis 13:1

So Abram left Egypt and traveled north into the Negev, along with his wife and Lot and all that they owned.



# Genesis 13:2

(Abram was very rich in livestock,  
silver, and gold.)



# Genesis 13:3

From the Negev, they continued traveling by stages toward Bethel, and they pitched their tents between Bethel and Ai, where they had camped before.



# Genesis 13:4

This was the same place where  
Abram had built the altar, and  
there he worshiped the Lord again.



# Genesis 13:5

Lot, who was traveling with Abram, had also become very wealthy with flocks of sheep and goats, herds of cattle, and many tents.



# Genesis 13:6

But the land could not support  
both Abram and Lot with all  
their flocks and herds living so  
close together.



# Principle #3

Conflict is the result of obstacles and problems that need to be resolved.



# Principle #4

Conflict, no matter how severe,  
does not need to damage  
or end relationships.



# Genesis 13:6

But the land could not support  
both Abram and Lot with all  
their flocks and herds living so  
close together.



# Genesis 13:7

So disputes broke out between the herdsmen of Abram and Lot. (At that time Canaanites and Perizzites were also living in the land.)



# Genesis 13:8

Finally Abram said to Lot, “Let’s not allow this conflict to come between us or our herdsmen. After all, we are close relatives!



# Principle #4

Conflict, no matter how severe,  
does not need to damage  
or end relationships.



# Principle #5

Successfully resolving conflict  
requires servant leadership and  
clear communication.



# Genesis 13:8

Finally Abram said to Lot, “Let’s not allow this conflict to come between us or our herdsmen. After all, we are close relatives!



# Genesis 13:9

The whole countryside is open to you. Take your choice of any section of the land you want, and we will separate. If you want the land to the left, then I'll take the land on the right. If you prefer the land on the right, then I'll go to the left."



# Principle #5

Successfully resolving conflict  
requires servant leadership and  
clear communication.



# Principle #6

Many conflicts can be resolved by trusting in the Lord, which in turn allows you to surrender instead of trying to seize.



# Genesis 13:9

The whole countryside is open to you. Take your choice of any section of the land you want, and we will separate. If you want the land to the left, then I'll take the land on the right. If you prefer the land on the right, then I'll go to the left."



# Genesis 13:10

Lot took a long look at the fertile plains of the Jordan Valley in the direction of Zoar. The whole area was well watered everywhere, like the garden of the Lord or the beautiful land of Egypt. (This was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.)



# Genesis 13:11

Lot chose for himself the whole Jordan Valley to the east of them. He went there with his flocks and servants and parted company with his uncle Abram.



**More often than not,  
surrendering is better than seizing  
as we seek to inherit and receive  
our destiny in God's plan.**



**Abram gave up a chance for the  
best land, eventually to gain the  
Promised Land.**



**David gave up a chance to seize the crown, eventually to have the crown given to him by God.**



**Christ gave up a chance to seize  
the kingdoms of earth, eventually  
to gain the Kingdom of God.**



# Principle #7

God wants to use conflict to further transform you into Christlikeness, to draw you closer to Himself, and ultimately, to bring His perfect plans to fruition.



# Genesis 13:12

So Abram settled in the land of Canaan, and Lot moved his tents to a place near Sodom and settled among the cities of the plain.



# Genesis 13:14

After Lot had gone, the Lord said to Abram, “Look as far as you can see in every direction—north and south, east and west.



# Genesis 13:15

I am giving all this land, as far  
as you can see, to you and  
your descendants as a  
permanent possession.



# Genesis 13:16

And I will give you so many  
descendants that, like the  
dust of the earth, they  
cannot be counted!



# Genesis 13:17

Go and walk through the land  
in every direction, for I am  
giving it to you.”



# Genesis 13:18

So Abram moved his camp to Hebron and settled near the oak grove belonging to Mamre. There he built another altar to the Lord.



# Principle #7

God wants to use conflict to further transform you into Christlikeness, to draw you closer to Himself, and ultimately, to bring His perfect plans to fruition.



**How do you handle  
conflict? Who do you  
become in the middle  
of a conflict?**



# **Level 1 - A Problem to Solve**

**The issue is problem oriented not  
person oriented.**



## **Level 2 - A Disagreement**

**The conflict is a mix of issues and personalities, which often makes it hard to clearly define the problem. Distrust at some level is an issue and so is personalizing the problem.**



## **Level 3 - A Competition**

**The conflict has escalated to being about winning or losing. Personal attacks take place as well as the distortion of facts. Personal perceptions and/or experiences become major hurdles in this level of conflict.**



## **Level 4 - Unlikely to be Resolved**

**There is no longer a clear understanding of the issue.**

**Clashing personalities have become the issue. The conflict is now unmanageable. The conflict is now focused on eliminating or destroying the opponent.**





Learn to Manage Conflict Well

*Thrive*

Genesis 13