

## **Faith & Family Quarrels – Genesis 13:1-18**

The life of faith does not provide easy answers to the problem of inter-personal relationship. Christians must never be naïve to think that once we are saved, all interpersonal problems, either in church or in our own homes – will disappear.

The fact is that Christians, like all people, have problems with personal relationships within our own families and within the family of God's people, and certainly with the outsiders.

Question: How do we deal with conflicts and how should we view them from God's perspectives?

Genesis 13 gives us a glimpse of Abraham's domestic problems. Abraham had a quarrel on his hands, but he did what was right and the episode became a **means for spiritual growth!**

Let us look at 3 things in our sermon today:

1. **The Nature of the conflict**
2. **The Responses of Abraham & Lot individually to the conflict**
3. **The Outcome of the whole episode.**

### 1. The Nature of the conflict

### 2. The Responses of 2 men – Abraham & Lot

- **How did Abraham respond in this crisis?**

- **Abraham displayed transparency**

- **Abraham valued unity!**

"Let's not have any quarrelling between you & me.. for we are brothers.." Genesis 13:8

- Abraham acted out of faith in God.
- Abraham was down to earth in his approach.
- Abraham displayed big-heartedness (meekness, to be exact) in his gesture

Abraham had no fear that Lot could ever rob him of that which was guaranteed to him by the faithfulness of God!

- How did Lot respond?

### 3. The Outcome of the whole episode

## Group Discussion /Message #2

1. What does the quarrel in Abraham's family teach us about human nature?
2. Try to trace Lot's tragedy, starting Genesis 12 to Genesis 19, and figure out the root cause of this guy's problem.
3. If you are Lot's friend, what advice, what biblical principles will you give him?
4. What qualities of Abraham would you emulate?
5. What have you learnt about the Character of our God in this episode?