

# Community Bible Church

## The Book of Genesis

### Chapters 13-14

**Genesis chapters 13 and 14** contain accounts of the relationship between **Abram** and his nephew **Lot** following their return to Canaan from Egypt. While both chapters are filled with descriptions of ancient geography, national leaders, conflict and strife, **three wonderful stories** emerge that demonstrate the faith and character of Abram and which are also marks of a follower of Jesus Christ today. These **three accounts** will be the focus of our study and, also, form the outline for these two chapters.

<b>Abram's Compassion &amp; Unselfishness</b>	<b>13:1-18</b>
<b>Abram's Courage &amp; Loyalty</b>	<b>14:1-16</b>
<b>Abram's Communion with Melchizedek</b>	<b>14:17-24</b>

1. Read **13:1-4**. Bethel, which means "House of God," was located just north of modern-day Jerusalem. What information most impressed you from this passage? What do you see as an application for your own life?
2. From **13:5-7**, describe the tensions that arose between Abram and Lot.
3. What did you think of Abram's attitude and proposed solution to this problem in **13:8-9**? What principles can you apply to your life from these verses and can you think of any examples?
4. Read Lot's decision in **13:10-13**. One commentator has written "**Lot looked toward Sodom in 13:10, moved toward Sodom in 13:11-12, and finally moved into Sodom in 14:12.**" These passages give a vivid word picture of the subtle process of being lured into worldliness. Just as Abram's actions served as an example, how would you describe Lot's actions, and how might you apply this passage to your life today?

5. In contrast to Lot who walked by sight, Abram was a man who walked by faith. Read this wonderful passage in **13:14-18** where God (Yahweh) speaks to Abram and repeats His promise to the Patriarch. ***“Not only did Abram lift up his eyes to look in 13:14 and lift up his feet to walk (13:17), but he also lifted up his heart to worship and to thank God in 13:18.”*** What aspects of this passage were of interest to you?
  
6. The faith and character of Abram are also on display in **chapter 14**. Before reading **14:1-12** the following summary will help you understand these verses. ***“The five city-states in the plain of Jordan had been subject for twelve years to the kings of four eastern city-states and finally revolted against them. This, of course, was a declaration of war; so the four kings invaded the plain of Jordan to bring the five kings into subjection. The army of the cities of the plain was soundly defeated by the invading kings.”*** Read this account in **14:1-12**, and from **14:10-12** describe the results of this battle.
  
7. From **14:13-16**, how did Abram respond? What does this teach you about the character of Abram? What might be an application to your life today?
  
8. While we have observed **Abram the Warrior** in **14:13-16**, he is presented as **Abram the Worshipper** in **14:17-20**. A man appears in the narrative who is identified as **Melchizedek king of Salem**. Many see this man as a “type” of Jesus Christ, and his name appears again in **Psalm 110:4** and **Hebrews 7:1-7**. Melchizedek means king of righteousness and Salem means peaceful. This man seems to appear from nowhere to comfort a battle-weary Abram. Read this passage (**14:17-20**) and describe the actions of both Melchizedek and Abram.
  
9. From **14:21-24**, what final opinions to you have regarding Abram in his interactions with the pagan king of Sodom?