

**TEXT: Genesis 13-14**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Peacemakers Christmas Toy Store** - Christmas is a tough time for many low-income families. Parents often lack the resources to provide gifts for their children. We want to love these families sacrificially as Jesus loves us by partnering with Peacemakers again for their annual Christmas Toy Store. We are asking you to bring new, unwrapped toys with the price tags still attached to the toy box in our lobby by Sunday November 29th. Peacemakers will then reprice the items at 80% off for parents to purchase and wrap for their children to empower these families. Go to [redeemerchurch.com/nextsteps](http://redeemerchurch.com/nextsteps) for more info about what kind of toys you could bring.
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## **BIG IDEA: Seek eternal peace over temporary prosperity**

### **Read Genesis 13:1**

1. Abram leaves Egypt and he goes back to an altar. He went DOWN to Egypt and he goes UP from Egypt. This is repentance. J.I. Packer defines repentance in this way: “Repentance means turning from 1) as much as you know of your sin 2) to give as much as you know of yourself 3) to as much as you know of your God, and as our knowledge grows at these three points so our practice of repentance has to be enlarged.” Where do you need to grow in your practice of repentance?

### **Read Genesis 13:2-8**

2. Lot has now become a problem for Abram. And Abram holds an advantage over him. In that culture, as the older and richer man, he had the right to make Lot submit. But he doesn't. Instead he chose peace. How do we actually do this when we have conflict with others?

### **Read Genesis 13:9-13**

3. Lot seeks what he thinks will lead to personal gain while Abram seeks that which could lead to personal loss but will result in God-honoring peace. And this marks the moment of Lot's downward spiral. Lot ends up living and leading in Sodom. Then God destroys Sodom and Gomorrah. What does this teach us about the progression of sin and temptation in our lives and how we can spiral in sin too?

### **Read Genesis 13:14-18**

4. When Abram chooses peace over prosperity, he looks like a fool. Leaving behind personal prosperity in order to have peace with God through the gospel will look ridiculous. God never tells us “come to me and prosper.” He never says, “Come to me and have a better life.” He says, “Pick up your cross and follow me.” He bids us to “come and die.” How have you seen the foolishness of the gospel in your life? Where do you need to see it more?

### **Read Genesis 14:12-16**

5. Lot is neck deep in sin and rebellion and he becomes a prisoner of war. In response, Abram takes on the heart of the gracious God of heaven. Abram leaves his home to go save his wicked nephew. He goes after Lot at great risk and great personal cost. How does this point us to the gospel and how we should model this in big and small ways to others in our life?

### **Read Genesis 14:17-20**

6. The Bible makes it clear that Melchizedek was sent by God to point to the true and better Melchizedek, Jesus. The final high priest. The King of Righteousness. The King of Peace. Abram meets the King of Peace because of his faith. How do we have peace with our God through Jesus? How does that impact your day-to-day life knowing you are at peace with God?