

# The Life of Faith: Learning from Failure

Genesis 12:10 - 13:4

Slides from John Percival's sermon at the morning service  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024

# 1. The way down (12v10-16)

- The test
- The plan

## Genesis 12v13

Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you.

“Abraham was acting as an archetypical male chauvinist in a culture that was completely chauvinistic, but even that cultural conditioning could have been overcome by faithful obedience to the express word of God.”

David Prior

## Genesis 12v2-3

<sup>2</sup> “I will make you into a great nation,  
and I will bless you;

I will make your name great,  
and you will be a blessing.

<sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you,  
and whoever curses you I will curse;  
and all peoples on earth  
will be blessed through you.”

“Abraham sank to this level because he did not let the promises of a faithful God take possession of his soul at a crucial moment in his life... If Abraham had taken time to stand firm on the promises God had made to him, he would not have sinned against Sarai, Pharaoh, or the Lord.”

David Prior

# 1. The way down (12v10-16)

- The test
- The plan
- The results

## 2. The way back (12v17-13v4)

- God's power

## Genesis 12v17

But the LORD inflicted serious diseases on Pharaoh and his household because of Abram's wife,

## 2. The way back (12v17-13v4)

- God's power
- God's grace
- God's restoration

## Genesis 13v1-4

<sup>1</sup> So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, with his wife and everything he had, and Lot went with him. <sup>2</sup> Abram had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold. <sup>3</sup> From the Negev he went from place to place until he came to Bethel, to the place between Bethel and Ai where his tent had been earlier <sup>4</sup> and where he had first built an altar. There Abram called on the name of the LORD.

## 1 John 1v9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

## Luke 15v20

But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

## 2 Timothy 2v13

if we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot disown himself.