



Biblical Character Sketches

Abraham—Lesson 2 from failure to fruitfulness



**WALKING IN THEIR
SANDALS**

Exploring today's lesson

- A personal **defeat**

Abraham lies to the Egyptians about Sarai (12:10-20).

- A personal **victory**

Abraham defers to Lot (13:1-18).

- Usefulness in **service**

Abraham rescues Lot (14:1-17).

I. A Personal Defeat (12:10-20)

- The role of **circumstances** in defeat
- The role of **fear** in defeat
- The **pain** of defeat
 - To our **loved-ones**
 - To our **testimonies**

How sad it is when a child of the world casts moral rebuke at a child of God and when the unbeliever instructs the believer in the ways of righteousness!

I. A Personal Defeat (12:10-20)

II. A Personal Victory (13:1-18)

Abraham defers to Lot.

➤ Restoration to fellowship

We need to hit the spiritual reset button rather than wallow in the pig pen.

➤ Learning from failure

God uses Abraham's failure in Egypt **for good** by teaching him to act in faith and on principle in resolving the conflict with Lot and his workers.

I. A Personal Defeat (12:10-20)

II. A Personal Victory (13:1-18)

III. Usefulness in Service (14:12-16)

Abraham rescues Lot.

➤ A remarkable faith

What a **transformation** from herdsman to warrior!

➤ A discerning faith

In refusing gifts, Abraham displays **spiritual discernment** that values God's reputation above personal rights and self-interest.



A Discussion Point

When is “help”
helpful?



A Discussion Point

We should never delight in anyone's suffering, even when self-inflicted, and we should always be anxious to offer **restorative** intervention.

A Final Thought

We can't imagine Abraham boldly stepping out to rescue Lot had he not first chosen God's path over the well watered plain of Jordan. So, how do we build our faith?

We likewise allow God to prove Himself through a series of faith decisions.