

• **AUGUST 18, 2019** •

When We Take Matters into our Own Hands

Genesis 12:10-13:1

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1. The bad circumstances which challenge our faith

2. Abraham's poor faith (Genesis 12:10-16)

3. God's surprising grace (Genesis 12:17-13:1)

Table Talk

- 1) Why does Abram leave the Promised Land for Egypt? Is he doing right by leaving? Why or why not? What kind of "dire" circumstances have you faced (either environmental or relational) that have challenged your faith?
- 2) What kinds of worries does Abram have? (vv. 11-13) What is wrong about his plan? Why is it easier to see the wrong of Abram's plan than the wrong of our own?
- 3) How do Pharaoh and the Egyptians respond to Abram and Sarai's arrival? How could what Pharaoh did in marrying Sarai completely ruin God's plan? How does God prevent that?
- 4) What does Pharaoh say that reminds us of the Garden of Eden? What parts of this story remind us of Joseph and the Exodus that will happen later?
- 5) List all the ways that God showed grace to Abraham, Sarai, and the Egyptians. How does this teach us that God's grace is not dependent upon the quality of our faith?
- 6) What should we learn from this? How can we respond to the Lord in our own "testing ground of faith"?