

# Character Study: Abraham

## Part 3 – The Rescue

### Genesis 13-14

#### What's happening?

- After being removed from Egypt, Abraham took the livestock and wealth he had gained and traveled back to the land of Canaan. (13:1-4)
- Lot, who had a growing number of livestock as well, settled with Abraham in Canaan. But living in the same area resulted in strife between the herdsman of Abraham and Lot, so Abraham suggested they separate. He gave Lot first choice as to which land to take as his own. Lot chose to move east into the plain of Jordan (toward Sodom). (13:5-13)
- God told Abraham again to look around him. All the land he could see would one day be his and his descents forever. God also promised to make the number of his descendants so large that they could not be numbered. (13:14-18)
- Shortly later, there was a big battle as four powerful kings of the East overtook five kings from the area of Jordan in order to squelch a rebellion. Lot and his family were taken captive, but Abraham quickly gathered 318 of his trained men and rescued them. (14:1-17)
- As he was returning home, Abraham encountered Melchizedek, the King of Salem, who was a righteous ruler and priest. Melchizedek blessed him and Abraham responded by giving him a tenth of what he had. (14:18-24)

#### What's God doing?

> By God's grace and forgiveness, Abraham was back in the place God wanted him. He was beginning to enjoy the land, growing with military power, and being provided for. We see God's faithfulness as He continued to carry out the promises He had made.

#### What's to learn?

→ When we sin, God's forgiveness can get us back where we need to be!

→ Lot selfishly took what he believed to be the best land for himself. Abraham was patient and waited, trusting by faith that God would be sure he got the land he was promised. Being greedy and self-seeking results in conflict, which leads to trouble. But trusting God results in a generous and self-denying spirit, which leads to peace and blessing!