



2018 is the year of FOCUS

Theme: Faith and Family

June 13, 2018

Series: *Navigating Uncertainty*

Topic: *Managing Change*

All changes, even the most longed for, have their melancholy; for what we leave behind us is a part of ourselves; we must die to one life before we can enter another.

~Anatole France

The Big Idea: Change **helps** us mature and grow.

FOCAL TEXT- Genesis 13:8-12 (NRSV)- 8 Then Abram said to Lot, “Let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herders and my herders; for we are kindred. 9 Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left.” 10 Lot looked about him, and saw that the plain of the Jordan was well watered everywhere like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar; this was before the Lord had destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. 11 So Lot chose for himself all the plain of the Jordan, and Lot journeyed eastward; thus they separated from each other. 12 Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled among the cities of the Plain and moved his tent as far as Sodom.

Introduction

- This **week** we are continuing our series, *Navigating Uncertainty*.
- In our focal text, Abram and Lot **endure** a difficult separation.
- In the same way, the end of a relationship, the loss of a job, death of a loved one, or a **family** relocation can be difficult to manage and confront.
- God’s Word **gives** us hope that change can bring healthy results.
- Change is **healthy** and necessary for growth.

Effective Change Management¹ will...

- I. Eliminate **Strife-** Genesis 13:8-13 (NRSV)- 8 Then Abram said to Lot, “Let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herders and my herders; for we are kindred. 9 Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left.”
 - A. **Concern-**They did have enough space to grow. When we do not have enough space to grow, something about our environment must change

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- B. **Conversation**-In their conversation with each other, they focused on problems and not personalities.
- C. **Compromise**-Great solutions benefit both parties.

¹ Change management is a term used to describe all approaches to prepare and support individuals, teams, and organizations in making organizational change.

Effective Change Management will...

- II. **Increase** Strength- **Genesis 13:10-11-10 Lot looked about him, and saw that the plain of the Jordan was well watered everywhere like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar; this was before the Lord had destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. 11 So Lot chose for himself all the plain of the Jordan, and Lot journeyed eastward; thus they separated from each other.**
 - A. **Strategic**-Lot found a space that worked for him. This change ultimately separated him from Abram.
 - B. **Structured**- As Lot identified his new home, he made sure the new home had what his family needed.
 - C. **Strength**-When we are strategic and structured, God can often launch our futures from a place of strength.

Effective Change Management will...

- III. Ensure **Space** for Growth-**Genesis 13:11-12-11 So Lot chose for himself all the plain of the Jordan, and Lot journeyed eastward; thus they separated from each other. 12 Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled among the cities of the Plain and moved his tent as far as Sodom.**
 - A. Divine **Alignment**-Both Abram and Lot choose their new homes, based upon their family's needs. By focusing on their family's need, they both aligned themselves with God's will for their lives.
 - B. **Diverse** Assignments-Each of them had diverse assignments in life, which did not necessarily include each other.
 - C. **Divine** Accomplishment- God accomplished His will and plan, which was to transport the children of Israel to Canaan.

APPLY IT!

1. *How might I effectively manage the change in my life?*

2. *What will be the markers of my success?*

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The world hates change, yet it is the only thing that has brought progress.

~Charles Kettering

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