

Tackling Your Problems

Genesis 12:10 - 13:4

Is There Life Beyond the Mess?

When faced with a problem in life, how do you respond?

Most people respond: "I can TACKLE it on my own!"

Three Lessons for Tackling Our Problems in Life:

1. When We Try to Tackle Problems On Our Own, We Make a MESS in Our Lives! *Gen. 12:10-13*

When We Tackle Problems On Our Own:

- We fail to TRUST God. vs. 1-10

Will I trust God, whatever the circumstances?

- We fail to OBEY God. vs. 10

Will I obey God, whatever the cost?

- We fail to FEAR God. vs. 11-13

Will I fear God, whatever the opposition?

2. When We Continue to Tackle Problems On Our Own, We Make a BIGGER Mess in Our Lives! *Gen. 12:14-16*

What Are the Consequences of Making a Mess in Our Lives?

- Some consequences are IMMEDIATE while others are DELAYED. *Gen. 13:5-7*
- Few consequences affect only ONE person while most affect MANY people. *Gen. 16:1-6*
- All consequences serve as REMINDERS of what happens when we respond to problems without God.

3. When We Tackle Problems with God, There Is LIFE Beyond the Mess! *Gen. 12:17-20; 13:1-4*

To Enjoy Life Beyond the Mess, We Must:

- RELY on God's help. vs. 17
- RECEIVE God's rebuke. vs. 18-20
- RETURN to the place of God's will. vs. 13:1-4

Have you MADE A MESS in your life?

- Are you still trying to tackle your problems on your own?
- Or are you willing to tackle your problems with God?

Good News: There is life beyond the mess—but only with God!