



Connect

Below are some common situations at home. Discuss among yourselves what you did and how things eventually ended. Feel free to add situations that apply to your family:

- Kids playing and both insist on having their way
- Mom or Dad asks you to do something for them but you are still busy playing games on your gadget.
- You were peacefully having a conversation about a movie (or any non-threatening event like a party or any event you attended, a sports match you watched, etc) when suddenly there was a disagreement on what happened and the conversation got out of hand.
- One child feels he is being treated unfairly over another sibling
- Two siblings share the chore of washing the dishes but neither one wants to soap and both want to rinse.

In each of these cases, a conflict had to be resolved. Do you think you were able to resolve the conflict well?

In our Bible story today, a conflict arose between Abram and Lot's groups. Let's check out how it was resolved.

Read the Word

Abram and Lot Separate

13 So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, with his wife and everything he had, and Lot went with him. 2 Abram had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold.

3 From the Negev he went from place to place until he came to Bethel, to the place between Bethel and Ai where his tent had been earlier 4 and where he had first built an altar. There Abram called on the name of the Lord.

5 Now Lot, who was moving about with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents. 6 But the land could not support them while they stayed together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to stay together. 7 And quarreling arose between Abram's herders and Lot's. The Canaanites and Perizzites were also living in the land at that time.

8 So Abram said to Lot, "Let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herders and mine, for we are close relatives. 9 Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company. If you go to the left, I'll go to the right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the left."

Being the uncle, Abram could have taken advantage of his position as the elder and chosen the better land for himself. In fact, he would not be at fault if he did. But he willingly gave Lot the option to choose where he wanted to go. He would rather have peace than fight with his relatives. He valued their relationship over material wealth. By choosing peace, Abram preserved his relationship with Lot, even if it meant sacrificing his personal gain. What a way to dispel potential conflict!

This is an example of a peacemaker. You find a way to end a conflict. It is not easy because many of us would rather find ways to insist or prove we are right, even if it hurts others. But Arbam showed us how it is to pursue peace. It doesn't mean giving in or avoiding conflict and then holding a grudge in your heart, but settling in his heart to have peace even if it means you have to sacrifice.



Parent to Kid/s:

2-6 years old

- How did Abram avoid fighting with Lot?

7-12 years old

- What do you think may happen if Abram did not divide the land between him and Lot? Why is it important to be at peace with others?

Kid/s to Parent:

- Have you always chosen to have peace over your personal gains? Why or why not?
- Why do you think a good leader should be a peacemaker?

Do you know that whenever there is conflict, there will be sin? Conflicts cause people to be more selfish, to be prideful, even hurtful and all these lead to sin. Leaders will always have a choice whether to choose peace or not. The Bible says in Romans 12:18, "Do all that you can to live



Dear God, I pray that You will teach me to be more patient with myself as I grow, as I learn how to walk with You and to know God more. Help me become a peacekeeping leader and to choose peace at all times. Give me the discipline to read your Word everyday, pray, and to be kind to my family and friends. In Jesus' name, Amen!



Do you know that laws were created out of the need to resolve conflicts?

Long before written history, man has sought ways to resolve conflicts in peaceful manners.

As far as 3000b.c. Egyptians have already applied their laws. However it was the Code of Hammurabi (1755-1750 BC) that was the longest, best-organised, and best-preserved legal text from the ancient world.

So, if only man knew how to keep the peace, we would not have the need to have so many laws. Does this make sense?

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Code_of_Hammurabi