



**WATERS EDGE  
CHURCH**

**Tension, Part 6**  
Week of May 13, 2012

**Review It...**

**Stu concluded our series on Tension with his wife, Tab. Together, they spoke about the tension of family.**

**Start It...**

- The Tension series has been an amazing one. What has been your favorite part?
- Everyone has that one person in their group of friends or family who creates tension. Share a funny story about them creating tension.

**Discuss It...**

- Andy Stanley, one of Stu's favorite pastors, made the statement: "some tension in life is never meant to be resolved, it's only meant to be managed."
- What does Andy Stanley mean by this?
- Tension in your family is normal, but the way we have to manage it should be abnormal. What does this mean?
- People who live for God are weird. One at a time, look to the person on your right and say "you are weird." This might get weird.
- Stu shared three case studies of tension-filled families from the Bible.
- **Read Genesis 6:8-9.**
- Noah walked with God and it created tension. Why does walking with God create tension between you and others?
- Share a specific time when your following Christ caused tension between you and another person.
- Are you using the weekly Waters Edge Web Notes? You can subscribe at [watersedgechurch.net](http://watersedgechurch.net). Although they don't take much time, they help you apply the biblical truths from Stu's sermon throughout the entire week.
- The second case study involves the family of Abraham and Sarah.
- **Read Genesis 17:6-7, 10, 24-27.**



**WATERS EDGE**  
C H U R C H

- To experience all God wanted and had planned for Him, Abraham and his family had to make some tough sacrifices. What in your life do you need to sacrifice in order to experience EVERYTHING that God has planned for you?
- **Read God's promise to Abraham in Genesis 22:17-18.**
- God promised Abraham that He would bless others through Abraham's obedience. How does faithfully following Christ impact the people around you?
- Case Study 3 was the family of Elkanah, Hannah, and their son Samuel. Have someone who remembers the story take some time to summarize.
- **Read 1 Peter 2:11.**
- We are not of this world, so we cannot expect to solve our tensions with worldly solutions. How does this make us weird?
- Stu's wife Tab joined him on stage to discuss the tensions of the family and some practical and biblical solutions to deal with them.
- Stu and Tab shared the value of planning ahead and scheduling.
- **Read 1 Corinthians 14:33.**
- What are some practical things you can do to help your family plan ahead?
- Next, Stu and Tab shared the importance of having a spiritual focus in their family.
- **Read Deuteronomy 6:6-9.**
- You control the spiritual atmosphere of your family. What are things you can do to keep God in the forefront of your family's life?
- **Read James 4:10.**
- Humility is not thinking of yourself to be better than others. What is a way you can honor others rather than complaining?

### **Apply It...**

- Stu shared that investment equals influence. What are ways that you can invest in your family, friends, and coworkers to impact their life in a positive way?

