



**Educate
+ Engage**



SUMMER
BREAK



Scared of
the Blessing

OVERVIEW

Although God had made a promise to the children of Israel for the land they were to receive, they were afraid to possess the land. God has and will give promises to you. Don't be distracted by what you see. Prepare for what He has for you.

Scripture Passage

Numbers 13:25–33 (KJV)

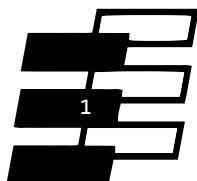
And they returned from searching of the land after forty days. And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and shewed them the fruit of the land. And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it. Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there. The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan.

And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it. But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we. And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature. And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

EDUCATE

Have you ever wanted an item for your birthday or Christmas but didn't receive it?

Sometimes when we are young, we ask for gifts that are difficult to obtain. This could be due to the latest gadget being sold out or the item's price being too high. When we are young, we may not always understand what we are asking for or the challenges associated with obtaining what we want or need.



Lesson 4

The Israelites were on the brink of the land God had promised them, but they were focused on what was in front of them. Most of the time, we should stay focused on what lies ahead.

For instance, when driving, it is important to maintain focus on the road ahead rather than being overly concerned with what lies behind. However, in this scenario, it would have been more advantageous for the Israelites to concentrate on the events and fulfilled promises of the past rather than what lay ahead of them.

Point 1: Embrace God's promises.

If the Israelites would have focused on what was in their rearview mirror, they would have realized God had been with them thus far. It would have reminded them of the miracles they had already experienced, and the promises God had kept. God promised to provide for them through everything.

As this series concludes, there are promises God has for you in the upcoming school year. Throughout this summer, God has probably spoken to you about starting a P7 Bible Club, going on a mission trip, or stepping out in a different way. You have a choice to make as you approach this school year. You can look at the task in front of you and think it's too big to achieve, or you can acknowledge that God will never leave you abandoned.

What has God promised you or called you to do this next school year?

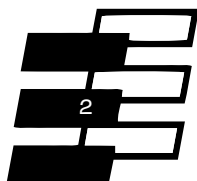
Knowing all that God had promised, Moses sent twelve spies to Canaan to search out the territory. They searched the land for forty days. The spies told Moses and the people the land flowed with milk and honey and there was fruit there.

But they also listed all the problems: "Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there. The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan" (Numbers 13:28-29).

Point 2: Faith sees the promise (Joshua and Caleb).

Joshua and Caleb tried to convince the people to go and take the land. However, the other spies said no, we cannot take the land because the people there are stronger than us.

Joshua and Caleb did not focus on the obstacles, but they reminded themselves of the promises. It's at this time they separated themselves from the other spies.



Lesson 4

When God gives you a promise, He will always fulfill it. Don't let your friends or enemies talk you out of the promises God has for you. Don't be afraid of what lies ahead, because God will be there with you. Yes, maybe it seems difficult or challenging. You should feel that way because God wants you to trust Him for the process.

Why do you think the other spies couldn't focus on the promises God had for them?

The other spies acknowledged the land is great, but they focused more on the inhabitants of the land. There are always detractors and obstacles, but God is with you.

David said, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me" (Psalm 23:4).

David knew he would have to walk through valleys, but he would not fear because he knew God was with him.

When we face challenges, the most important thing to remember is that we are not alone; God is with us!

Point 3: Focus on a new year.

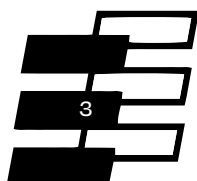
As you prepare yourself for a new year, focus on the promises God has for you and not the challenges. God has a territory for you to take. Promises He wants you to prepare for.

Maybe it's time to reach out to that friend God has been wanting you to teach a Bible study. Study for the sermon He has placed on your heart. Make time to give to the church.

It doesn't take effort to stay on the sideline. It takes effort to put the first foot forward in what doing what God wants you to do.

Because of the report the ten other spies brought, the children of Israel were once again ready to return to Egypt. They were going to make a new captain and start their journey back to where they came from. Although the people had left Egypt, they were still in bondage in their mind. Egypt was still in their heart.

When we trust in God, watch Him work on your behalf. Often, He wants us to be willing, but He will fight on our behalf.



Lesson 4

Because of their willingness to speak up and trust God, Caleb and Joshua were able to see God's promises come to pass, but the others were not.

Closing

Trust God in the promises He has for you. Maybe there are obstacles in the way. It's possible the person you need to teach a Bible study to looks like the last person that would ever want a Bible study. But if that is what God wants you to do, just be willing.

Joshua and Caleb were willing to pursue the promise and therefore they were able to live in the promise. Just be willing and ready to step back in to your school and see the promise fulfilled.

ENGAGE

Prayer: God, I pray that every promise You have for these young people would come to pass. Help them be a testimony as they get ready for school and to see the promises You have for them come to life. Help them to be willing vessels that You will use

