

1. Intro

- Last week, we talked about how the Lord used the seemingly unusable Moses to lead the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. He can use us too!
- Moses led the Israelites to Mt. Sinai where the Lord gave them the Law and instructions to build the Tabernacle.
- So, with the Law in hand and the Tabernacle complete, the Lord led them to the border of Canaan, the land He **promised** to give them.
 - **Exodus 6:6-8** "Therefore, say to the people of Israel: 'I am the Lord. I will free you from your oppression and will rescue you from your slavery in Egypt. I will redeem you with a powerful arm and great acts of judgment. **7** I will claim you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God who has freed you from your oppression in Egypt. **8** I will bring you into the land I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. I will give it to you as your very own possession. I am the Lord!'"
 - God fulfilled His promise to rescue them from slavery, and now He's ready to fulfill His promise to give them the Promised Land! The Israelites were poised and positioned to move in and take possession of the land!

2. Text: Numbers 13-14

- **Numbers 13:1-3, 17-24** - God told Moses to send out men (spies) to **explore** the land, crops, and towns of Canaan (Promised Land).
 - The Lord often chooses to carry out His will by asking His people to work in conjunction with Him.
- **Numbers 13:25-29** - The spies reported that the land was good, **BUT** that the people were powerful - even saw **giants!** - and the cities were **fortified**.
 - Can you hear the fear in their report?!
- **Numbers 13:30** - Caleb **focused** on God's promise, and he was filled with **confidence** that God would give them the land!
- **Numbers 13:31-14:4** - The other spies **focused** only on the obstacles and dangers, and they were filled with **fear**.

- **Numbers 14:5-9** - Caleb and Joshua focused on **the LORD**, not the challenges!
 - Caleb (and Joshua) declared:
 - Don't rebel against the LORD
 - Don't be afraid of the people of the land
 - The LORD is **with us**!
- **Numbers 14:10-12** - The Israelites **chose** not to believe God.
- **Numbers 14:26-33** - The LORD **judged** the Israelites' unbelief and rebellion by not allowing the adult generation of Israelites to enter the land.
 - Their unbelief in God's promise caused them to **miss out**.

3. Application

- The Lord hasn't commanded us believers in the church to go conquer a specific land, but He has commanded us to go into all nations and make disciples of Jesus.
- "Expect great things from God. Attempt great things for God." - William Carey
- Don't allow your focus to be on the challenges and dangers of making disciples of Christ; instead, focus on the promise and power of God! Step out and be confident He will work through us!