



Grades 4–5 • Lesson 61

Moses Sends the Spies

Exodus 3:8, 23:20–23; Numbers 13:23, 13:27–28, 13:32–33

Name _____

Spy Message

Use the pictures in the Bible Decoder to fill in the secret message from Joshua and Caleb to the Israelites.



Memory Verse

Learn the Word

Fill in the descriptions of God based on the colored words in the memory verse.

Know therefore that the LORD your God is **God**, the **faithful** God who keeps **covenant** and **steadfast love** with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations. **Deuteronomy 7:9**

1. The Lord your God is _____. 2. God is _____.

3. God keeps his _____ and shows _____.

What You Heard *In the Word*

- God promised Abraham and his descendants, the Israelites, that he would give them a land “flowing with milk and honey.”
- Twelve men spied out the promised land, but only Joshua and Caleb trusted God to keep his promise to protect them and give them the land.

OutWord *For Family Discussion*

Suppose you are talking about the Bible with some friends and they say, “We just don’t believe that part about giants in the land. There’s no such thing as giants!”

What would you say to them?

Actually, there are very tall people today that we might call giants. Look at basketball players—some of them look like giants to us. Some are over 7 feet tall! We also know that Goliath was a “giant.” The Bible tells us that he stood over 9 feet high (1 Samuel 17:4). That’s tall! I believe that Joshua, Caleb, and the spies did see giants in the promised land, just as the Bible tells us.



HomeWord *For Parents*

At the border of the land of Canaan, the Israelites revealed their complete lack of trust in God. The 12 spies were sent—each a representative of the tribe of their fathers—including Joshua and Caleb (Numbers 13:1–20). The land was indeed abundant just as God had promised (Numbers 13:27). Yet most of the spies, upon seeing the strong people, the fortified cities, and the giant descendants of Anak, were overcome with fear (Numbers 13:28–33). Only Joshua and Caleb spoke favorably of the land, pleading with the Israelites to have courage and faith in God’s promises and to trust that the Lord was with them (Numbers 14:6–9).

Their cries to the people went unheeded—the Israelites refused to enter the promised land (Numbers 14:2–4) and threatened to kill both Caleb and Joshua (Numbers 14:10). God’s judgment was both merciful and righteous as he pardoned their rebellion (Numbers 14:20) yet decreed that they would not enter into Canaan to see the land sworn to their fathers (Numbers 14:23). All but Caleb, Joshua, and those under 20 years old would die in the wilderness and never see the fulfillment of the promise (Numbers 14:29–31).

God is the same God today as he was then—he is immutable—he does not change. He will punish sin, but he rewards those who trust in him. We can stand on the promises as revealed in his Word just as surely as Caleb and Joshua believed him in the wilderness. He will not let us down; he will never leave us or forsake us (Deuteronomy 31:6).

