



K-Ist Lesson

Review

Refer to the Exodus to Malachi Timeline. We've been learning about the Israelites. God rescued them from Egypt and chose Moses to lead them through the wilderness on their way to the Promised Land. God gave the Israelites special laws they needed to follow to treat God and each other right.

- What were those laws called? There were 10 of them. *The Ten Commandments.*

Then God gave them instructions to build a tabernacle where they could worship God. Everything in the tabernacle could be packed up and carried to a new camp as they traveled on their way to the Promised Land of Canaan.

The Promised Land

- Show Clue Picture #1. Why was Canaan called the Promised Land? I'll give you a hint: who received a promise from God when he was told to move to Canaan a long time ago? *Abraham.*

Canaan is the land God promised to give Abraham and his descendants. Abraham had a son named Isaac, who had a son named Jacob. Remember how God changed Jacob's name to Israel? His descendants were called the Israelites. Now, many years later, they were ready to move into the land God promised. It was a very good land. God said it was "flowing with milk and honey!"

- What do you think that means? *Allow discussion.*

It means that the land had lots of trees, grass, and water, so it was good for keeping animals, for growing food like fruits and vegetables, and

for building cities. God was giving the Israelites a beautiful place to live.

But wait a minute! There were already people living in this land. And they wouldn't want to give it up without a fight. So, God gave the Israelites another promise.

Exodus 23:20

Let's read about that in Exodus 23:20. *Have the student bring up the Bible and open it to the sticky note. Read the verse.*

- Who did God promise to send to guard and guide the people? *An angel.*

God said his angel would lead them into the land and keep them safe. And if the Israelites obeyed God and did all that he said, God would help them fight their enemies and take the land as their own.

The Spies' Report

- Before the Israelites entered Canaan, God told Moses to send spies into the land. What does a spy do? *Allow discussion.*

A spy is someone who secretly finds out things about the enemy. *If you brought a magnifying glass or made the Magnifiers Craft, explain that spies we think of today might use magnifiers to help them find clues.*

Moses chose 12 spies. Their mission was to find out about the land—was it good or bad? Find out about the people—were they weak or strong? And find out about the cities—were they small or were they big with walls around them? The 12 spies accepted their mission and explored for 40 days, spying out the land. When they came back, they told the people what they learned.

Now it's time for you to be spies. There are pictures all around the room with clues on them about the land of Canaan. Whenever I read about something the spies found, look for the clue and when you find it, raise your magnifier (or hand). *As you continue the lesson, allow students to look for the clues from where they're sitting and raise magnifiers when they've found each clue.*

Numbers 13:23

First, let's see what the spies found out about the land in Numbers 13:23. *Read the verse.*

- Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. What did the spies find and bring back? *Fruit. Grapes, pomegranates, and figs.*

- Good things grew there in the land. Can you find those clues? *Have students look for the clues and raise their magnifiers. Grapes, figs, and pomegranates. Clue Pictures #2, 3, 4.*

- The spies also said the land "flowed with milk and honey" just like God told them. Can you find those clues? *Find clues and raise magnifiers. Milk. Honey. Clue Pictures #5, 6.*

- Does that mean there was sticky honey oozing all over and milk flowing in the rivers instead of water? What did we say about that earlier? *The land was good for keeping animals, building cities, and growing food like fruits and vegetables.*

Numbers 13:28

So we've found out that the land and its fruit were very good. But there were a lot of people living there already. What did the spies find out about them? Listen to this verse so you can find the clues. *Read the first sentence in Numbers 13:28.*

- What did the spies say about the people living in the land? *Find clue and raise magnifiers. They are strong. Clue Picture #7.*

- And what about the cities? Were they small or large? *Very large.*

- Refer to the Flip Chart. The cities were very large and what was all around them? *Find clue and raise magnifiers. Walls. Clue Picture #8.*

- Do you think it would be easy or hard for the Israelites to attack these cities? *Hard!*

- Not only that but some of the people were so tall—they were giants! The spies said, "We felt like grasshoppers next to them!" Are there any clues about that? *Find clues and raise magnifiers. Giants. Grasshoppers. Clue Pictures #9, 10.*

The Israelites' Response

Refer to the Flip Chart. It wasn't long before an argument broke out. Ten of the spies said the people were too scary and there was no way the Israelites could go in and take the land. But the other two spies, Joshua and Caleb, trusted God and argued that the Israelites could take the

land with God on their side. They knew this was a very good land that God had promised to them. The people just needed to trust God to help them fight the enemies—and the land would be theirs! But the Israelites did not listen to Joshua and Caleb. They listened to the 10 spies who did not trust God and became very afraid.

Numbers 14:10

Uh oh! Now what will happen? Let's find out in Numbers 14:10. *Read the verse.*

- What happened first? The people said to do what to Joshua and Caleb? *Stone them with stones.*

The Israelites let their fear turn into anger, and they were picking up stones to throw at Joshua and Caleb to kill them! They were ready to turn around and go back to Egypt! These people were not trusting God.

- What happened next? What appeared? *The glory of the Lord.*

Suddenly the Lord appeared and spoke to Moses. God had led the people such a long way, and they finally made it to the Promised Land. He even promised to send an angel to protect them. But they would not listen. God was very angry with the Israelites and was ready to destroy them because of their sin.

Moses begged God to have mercy on them. God listened to Moses and didn't destroy them all, but they would be punished. Instead of going into the Promised Land, all the Israelites would wander in the wilderness for 40 years until all the adults over 20 years old died. Only the young people and Joshua and Caleb, the spies who trusted God, would enter the Promised Land.

Isn't that sad? All those people who had seen God rescue them from Egypt and Pharaoh's army never got to see the Promised Land "flowing with milk and honey"—all because they let their fear take over and did not trust God.

God promised this land to the Israelites, but they didn't trust him. They didn't believe God was faithful. But he is. God always keeps his promises.

Giants

They were
afraid of...

High Walls

Joshua

Caleb

