

Faith over Fear: What If Things Fall Apart? Fear Not Series

WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS BUT UNCERTAINTY IS PART OF LIFE

Moses sent 12 Spies

Numbers 13:1-3 *The Lord said to Moses, 2 “Send some men to explore the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites. From each ancestral tribe send one of its leaders.” 3 So at the Lord’s command Moses sent them out from the Desert of Paran. All of them were leaders of the Israelites.*

FEAR IS THE OPPOSITE OF FAITH, AND IT GROWS WHEN WE FOCUS ON OUR CIRCUMSTANCES

Ten Spies Come Back Afraid

Numbers 13: 7 *They gave Moses this account: “We went into the land to which you sent us, and it does flow with milk and honey! Here is its fruit. 28 But the people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large. We even saw descendants of Anak there. . . . 31 “We can’t attack those people; they are stronger than we are.” 32 And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, “The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size. 33 We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them.”*

FAITH HELPS US SEE THE TRUTH REGARDING WHAT LIES AHEAD

Caleb and Joshua Return Full of Faith

Numbers 13: 30 *Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, “We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.” 14: 6 Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh. . . , tore their clothes 7 and said to the entire Israelite assembly, “The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good. 8 If the Lord is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. 9 Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will devour them. Their protection is gone, but the Lord is with us. Do not be afraid of them.”*

WE OVERCOME FEAR BY KNOWING GOD AND HIS PROMISES—FAITH GROW WHEN WE FOCUS ON GOD

Joshua and Caleb Lead the Israelites into the Promised Land

Joshua 1 *After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses’ aide: 2 “Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. 3 I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. . . . 5 No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. 6 Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. 7 “Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. 8 Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”*