

Message Notes  
“**Focus: Faith or Fear?**”  
Numbers 13:25-33

After exploring the land for forty days, the men returned <sup>26</sup>to Moses, Aaron, and the whole community of Israel at Kadesh in the wilderness of Paran. They reported to the whole community what they had seen and showed them the fruit they had taken from the land. <sup>27</sup>This was their report to Moses: “We entered the land you sent us to explore, and it is indeed a bountiful country—a land flowing with milk and honey. Here is the kind of fruit it produces. <sup>28</sup>But the people living there are powerful, and their towns are large and fortified. We even saw giants there, the descendants of Anak! <sup>29</sup>The Amalekites live in the Negev, and the Hittites, Jebusites, and Amorites live in the hill country. The Canaanites live along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea and along the Jordan Valley.” <sup>30</sup>But Caleb tried to quiet the people as they stood before Moses. “Let’s go at once to take the land,” he said. “We can certainly conquer it!” <sup>31</sup>But the other men who had explored the land with him disagreed. “We can’t go up against them! They are stronger than we are!” <sup>32</sup>So they spread this bad report about the land among the Israelites: “The land we traveled through and explored will devour anyone who goes to live there. All the people we saw were huge. <sup>33</sup>We even saw giants there, the descendants of Anak. Next to them we felt like grasshoppers, and that’s what they thought, too!”

- There are two ways of seeing life: One is **positive**, the other is **negative**.
- What I **focus on** in life is what I’m going to get.

At the foot of the mountain, a large crowd was waiting for them. A man came and knelt before Jesus and said, <sup>15</sup>“Lord, have mercy on my son. He has seizures and suffers terribly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. <sup>16</sup>So I brought him to your disciples, but they couldn’t heal him.” <sup>17</sup>Jesus said, “You faithless and corrupt people! How long

must I be with you? How long must I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me.”<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus rebuked the demon in the boy, and it left him. From that moment the boy was well. <sup>19</sup>Afterward the disciples asked Jesus privately, “Why couldn’t we cast out that demon?”

<sup>20</sup>“You don’t have enough faith,” Jesus told them. “I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it would move. Nothing would be impossible.” Matthew 17:14-20

Reasons why we often make the same mistakes as the Israelites:

1. **Fear**.

- The **power** of God is for **today**.

(Add Scripture to above screen as I state it:)

“Everything is possible with God!” Mark 10:27

2. **Selfishness**.

3. **Unbelief**.

- The warning: If we reject the report of faith, God can take away our blessings, make us wander in a wilderness of confusion and give the dream to **someone else**.
- But, if we follow Christ in faith, **miracles** will happen!

➤ The Supreme Lesson: Even the **smallest amount** of faith can be transforming!

- Size is not the **qualifying agent** for the blessings of God.
- God Himself will bring us to the edge of our blessings, but we are the ones who have to **go in** and **possess** the land.

- “Love your enemies...” Matthew 5:44
- “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you...” Matthew 7:12
- “Love your neighbor as you love yourself.” Matthew 19:19
- “Well done, good and faithful servant...” Matthew 25:21
- “Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness...” Matthew 6:33

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your path.”  
Proverbs 3:5-6