



## Key References:

*“Unbelief overlooks the promises and power of God, magnifies every danger and difficulty, and fills the heart with discouragement.”*

- Matthew Henry

Numbers 13:1–2 (ESV)

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel. From each tribe of their fathers you shall send a man, everyone a chief among them.”

Numbers 13:26–28 (ESV)

<sup>26</sup> And they came to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation of the people of Israel in the wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh. They brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. <sup>27</sup> And they told him, “We came to the land to which you sent us. It flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. <sup>28</sup> However, the people who dwell in the land are strong, and the cities are fortified and very large. [...]

Numbers 13:33 (ESV)

<sup>33</sup> And there we saw the Nephilim [...], and we seemed to ourselves like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them.”

Numbers 14:3 (ESV)

<sup>3</sup> Why is the LORD bringing us into this land, to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become a prey. Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?”

Numbers 14:8–9 (ESV)

<sup>8</sup> If the LORD delights in us, he will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that flows with milk and honey. <sup>9</sup> Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not fear the people of the land, for they are bread for us. Their protection is removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear them.”

## Discussion Questions:

As we get older our perspectives change. **Can you think of a perspective that has changed for you from childhood, to teens, to adulthood?**

Read Numbers 13:1-2 & 13:17-20. **If God had already promised Israel the promised land, then why did they still need to send spies?** (faith with planning)

Read Numbers 13:25-28; 13:30-31 & 14:1-4. This event only took place about one year after God had brought the people out of Egypt. **Can you find reason for why the people responded the way they did?**

### 1. Remembering God’s promises

**What promises of God do you know from scripture? What has God spoken?**

**Can you have faith without knowing the promises of God first? Why is it then important to read The Bible for this?**

### 2. Looking to God

**The unbelieving spies compared themselves to what in 13:33? When have you felt like this before something that God is calling you to?**

Read Numbers 14:6-9. **If Caleb & Joshua had seen God do exactly the same things as all the others why was their response so different? Where are they looking?**

Katie said: *“We were never meant to build our faith by looking inwards.”* **How counter-cultural is this statement? Do you find yourself getting in the way of God using you because of this?**

**What things help you move to a place of faith & correct perspective?**

### 3. Speaking life

In Deuteronomy 1:28 it says the spies *“melted the hearts of the people”* with their bad report. **How does what you speak have power over Christians around you? How has it had power over you in the past?**

**What do we need to speak life into in front of the church today? Is speaking life just for leaders? How can we speak life like Caleb & Joshua in 14:8-9?**

Katie said: “The ten spies were being smart & realistic in natural terms” and “Our faith is revealed in what we speak”. **What do you think about these?**

**What personal situations do you need victory over like in this whole story?**