

Old Testament 3: God Provides Judges and a King

Engage CD

Cross Explorations® Sunday School



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Cross Explorations® At-a-Glance

15 Minutes

Engage
(Large-Group
Opening)

20 Minutes

Explore
Level 1
(grades 1–3)
Level 2
(grades 4–6)

25 Minutes

Express
Drama
Music
Crafts
Activities
Service

Preparing the Lesson

Date of Use _____

The Twelve Spies in Canaan

Numbers 13–14



Key Point

By God's power, Israel rose victorious over many great enemies. By the power of Christ, who fought for us on the cross, we are victorious over the greater enemies of sin, death, and the devil.

Law/Gospel

I do not always believe God's promises; instead, I grumble and am afraid. **God, who always keeps His promises, kept His promise to send His Son to save me from my sin through His sacrifice on the cross.**

Context

A year and a few months after leaving Egypt, the nation of Israel stands on the brink of the Promised Land. More than four hundred years have passed since Jacob and his sons entered Egypt. Now, countless Israelites stand poised to sink deep roots in holy soil. But, alas, ten of the dozen spies who have scoped out the land throw a pall over the people's enthusiasm. They return with a good news/bad news report. "The land is lovely, to be sure," they say, "but the inhabitants are gargantuan! There's no way we can conquer them." Such rebellion ignites divine anger, brings down a curse on everyone age 20 and older, and begins the infamous forty years of wandering in the wilderness.

Commentary

Taking the land will not be as easy as taking candy from a baby—and that's not easy. The Canaanites, Jebusites, and a whole pack of other "ites" won't simply pack up and move out when Israel moves in to claim the land. So a plan of attack is needed; thus the mission of the spies to check out the land and its inhabitants. The land "checks out" as God had promised. It's top-notch real estate. The heavy, takes-two-men-to-carry cluster of grapes is ample proof of that.

"But," warn ten of the twelve spies, "we might as well dig our graves before we attack. We are grasshoppers compared to those giants. Plus, their cities are built like castles. God wants us to bite off more than we can chew. Mission: impossible." With such words, the spies (all but Caleb and

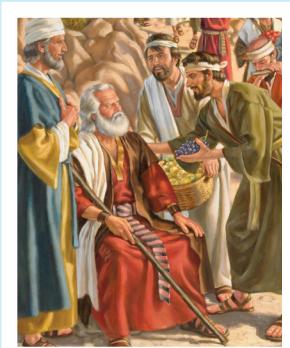
Joshua) squash the hopes of Israel. The people, first dejected, then infuriated, soon want a pound of flesh from Moses and Aaron. Back to Egyptian slavery they want to go.

Such is fallen human nature. It revolts against God's ways when they seem contrary to reason or common sense. It tells David to put away his sling and kiss Goliath's feet. It tells the ten spies and the tens of thousands of Israelites to turn tail and run back to their former masters. In other words, sin says that God is a liar—that He can't do what He says He'll do. Better to trust in your five senses and one brain than any five words of the one true God.

But God, from creation onward, specializes in the impossible. He makes everything out of nothing. With Him, grasshoppers *can* stomp the life out of giants, sky-high city walls *can* tumble down, ninety-nine-pound Israelites *can* take on and *take out* any muscular "ites" who dare stand in their way. So say Joshua and Caleb, for so says our Lord, who fights for us every step of the way.

The enemies the Israelites fear are tokens also of the greater enemies we still face today: the "ites" of sin, death, and our archenemy, Satan. Who can stand against such mammoth foes? Christ can, and Christ has. He has proven to be faithful to His Father, victorious in all combat. On the cross, He took on and took out every adversary of humanity. God Himself came down from heaven to fight for us.

To hear an in-depth discussion of this Bible account, visit cph.org/ podcast and listen to our Seeds of Faith podcast each week.



Greg Copeland. © CPH.

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE—OLD TESTAMENT 3

GOD PROVIDES JUDGES AND A KING

LESSON 1: THE TWELVE SPIES IN CANAAN NUMBERS 13–14

Amalekites	AM uh leck ites
Amorites	AM oh rites
Anak	A knack
Canaan	KANE un
Hittites	HIT tites
Jebusites	JEBB you sites
Negeb	NEG eb
Nephilim	NEFF ih lim
Paran	PAH ruhn

LESSON 2: ENTERING THE PROMISED LAND JOSHUA 3:1–5:12

Gilgal	GILL gal
Levitical	luh VIT uh cull
Perizzites	PER uh zites
Zarethan	ZAHR eh than

LESSON 3: THE FALL OF JERICO JOSHUA 6

Rahab	RAY hab
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LESSON 4: DEBORAH JUDGES 4–5

Barak	BAR ack
Harosheth-hagoyim	huh ROE sheth-huh GOY ihm
Hazor	HAH zohr
Heber	HEE buhr
Jabin	JAY bin
Jael	JAY uhl
Kedesh	KEE desh

POWERPOINT TIPS

The slides on this CD work with PowerPoint versions from 2003 forward or with the free, downloadable PowerPoint Viewer.

The full PowerPoint program is available as part of Microsoft Office for PCs or Macs. A variety of programs on Apple computers convert and use PowerPoint files as well.

As an alternative, Microsoft offers PowerPoint Viewer as a free download. This program lets you view, project, or print slides, but not create or edit them. You need the complete PowerPoint program for those tasks.

To install PowerPoint Viewer, use the link on the automatic menu of this CD.

1. Put the CD in your computer's CD drive.
2. Click "Install." Follow the directions on the automatic menu. It will take you to this site: <http://www.microsoft.com/download/en/details.aspx?id=13>
3. You need to agree to the license terms. Once installation completes, restart your computer.

Troubleshooting

When working with these PowerPoint slides, some things may affect the look of your slides.

1. Different versions of PowerPoint may provide slides that look slightly different than the originals. You might see odd spacing or words that run out of a text box or off the page. You may see odd placement of Bible references.

The problem comes from different fonts on the computers that made the slides and the one you use. Even fonts with the same names may differ from one computer or system to another.

2. To help, we use fonts embedded in Microsoft Office programs and common to most computers. Using the Microsoft Office fonts should take care of most of the differences between the two operating systems.
3. We also prepare and check slides on PC and Mac computers to make sure they work with both systems.
4. If you find odd spacing with apostrophes and quotation marks, change a setting in your PowerPoint program. After doing so, you might need to retype the punctuation marks to get rid of the odd spacing.
 - For Macs, when in the PowerPoint program, click on the word "PowerPoint" along the top menu and choose "Preferences" from a pull-down menu.

Choose “Autoformat As You Type.” Click to check the box in front of “Straight quotes with smart quotes.”

- For PCs, go to File/Options/Proofing/Autocorrect Options. Choose “Autoformat as you type” and click to mark the choice that says “Straight Quotes with Smart Quotes.””

Editing slides

If you have 1997, 2003, 2007, or 2010 Microsoft Office with a full PowerPoint program, you can edit these slides or copy and paste them into different presentations. Some animations may not work in pre-2003 versions of PowerPoint.

(PowerPoint 1997 does not copy and paste slides easily. Please consult your software manual for help.)

When editing and creating slides, you may have difficulties when you cut and paste elements from one slide or presentation to another. However, this is very easy to do if you know a few secrets.

PowerPoint defaults to the design template of the presentation you pasting slides **into** and does not automatically carry over design elements from the slide you copied. This means you can lose art, photos, and other elements of the original slide. However, a few easy steps can retain the design of the original slide.

1. Make sure you are in NORMAL view.
2. Copy slides from the source (right-click to bring up the menu and choose COPY), and then put your cursor below or between the slides in the new presentation to insert the copied slides.
3. Paste slides into the new presentation (right click to bring up menu and choose PASTE).
4. When you do, a small clipboard icon appears at the bottom right-hand corner or somewhere near the new slides. (If it does not appear, undo and reinsert.) Click on the clipboard. Two choices appear in a menu below the clipboard: 1) Keep source formatting; OR 2) Use design template formatting. To retain the design elements of the copied slide, choose 1. To take on attributes of the new presentation, choose 2.

Playing Slides with Linked Music

Open the PPT file. The music slides will automatically play when you click to the first page of lyrics. Do not click again until the song finishes.



I Spy a Spy!



Lesson 1 Handout

The Twelve Spies in Canaan

Numbers 13–14

Invocation

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Song

Opening Sentences

Give Thanks

Leader: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

People: for His steadfast love endures forever! (Psalm 118:1)

Leader: Let us thank God with our hearts.
A brief silence.

We remember that it is God who has given us our lives, who renews His love to us each day.

People: We thank You, Lord.

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.
(Psalm 103:2)

People: We thank You, Lord.

Leader: It is God who forgives our sin and remembers it no more.

People: We thank You, Lord.

Leader: It is with our hearts and hands that we receive the many gifts that God gives us.

People: We thank You, Lord.

Leader: We thank God not only with our minds, but also with our voices.

People: We thank You, Lord.

Leader: For the gifts of body and soul, eyes, ears, and all our members, our reason and all our senses, for all that He gives to support our bodily life,

People: we thank You, Lord.

Leader: The steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him. (Psalm 103:17)

People: Alleluia! Amen.

Song

Presentation

Offering and Prayers

Baptism Prayer

Leader: Dear heavenly Father, through Baptism, You have made us Your own children. Cleanse our hearts that we might be truly sorry for our sinful nature. Send Your Spirit to us that we may learn of Your intent for our lives. Make us more generous in showing Your love to others. For the sake of our dear Savior, we ask these things.
Amen.

Song

Bible Challenge Questions

Engage Openings, Old Testament 3

Lesson 1

What book of the Bible is named after one of the twelve spies who snuck into the new land to get information? **Joshua**

Lesson 2

The Israelites entered the Promised Land. What land has God promised to give us? **Heaven!**

Lesson 3

Who led the children of Israel after Moses? **Joshua**

Lesson 4

Deborah was a judge. Which leaders served earliest in Israel's history, kings or judges? **Judges**

Lesson 5

True or false: Gideon was a king of Israel. **False. Gideon was a judge of Israel.**

Lesson 6

What was the claim to fame of Samson, a judge of Israel? **Great strength**

Lesson 7

True or false: Ruth was one of Jesus' ancestors, a member of His family. **True!**

Lesson 8

Who was born to Hannah after she prayed and asked God to give her a son? **Samuel**

Lesson 9

Who was the first king of Israel? **King Saul**

Lesson 10

What is the name of the shepherd boy who fought a giant and won? **David**

Lesson 11

Who was David's best friend? **Jonathan**
How was this person related to King Saul? **He was Saul's son.**

Lesson 12

How old was David when he began to reign as king? **Thirty years old**

Lesson 13

Name one or more prophets in the Bible. **Answers vary, but may include Elijah, Elisha, Isaiah, Jonah, Nathan, or John the Baptist.**