

THE GOSPEL STORY
Forgetting God's Faithfulness
Numbers 13-14

In Numbers 13-14, Israel has a selective memory disorder.

- Like Israel, we often forget what we should remember, and we remember the things we should forget.
- In these two chapters, Israel comes to a place where a decision must be made – to enter the Promised Land or not.
 - They sent out 12 spies, one from each tribe, to survey the land.
 - God said to take the land. Fear tells us to retreat.
 - This becomes Israel's threshold moment in history.
 - Their walking turned into wandering.
 - Their marching became their meandering.
 - Their witness became their wailing.

Hebrews 3:19

NUMBERS 13

Moses sent out 12 spies, one from each tribe – two notable names:

- V.6 – Caleb from the tribe of Judah
- VV.8, 16 – Hoshea (Joshua) from the tribe of Ephraim
 - Hoshea means to save.
 - Joshua means the Lord saves.

Numbers 13:17-22

Numbers 13:23-33

- V.28, "But/nevertheless" Fear will keep you from seeing the fruit.
- What is your perspective?

NUMBERS 14

Numbers 14:1-6

The bad report had gone into their hearts, fear is contagious, and there were more people spreading fear than faith.

Uncontrolled emotion will lead to bad decisions.

Worship is so important – it's a time where we adjust our perspective of God.

They didn't trust God with their children and yet it was their children who entered the Promised Land.

Numbers 14:7-10

Why would the Lord go through all the trouble to send plagues and miracles, bringing us this far to let us die? (vv.8-9)

The Lord appeared whenever there was rebellion or a challenge to His word and leaders.

Numbers 14:11-20

“How long?” is found often in the Bible, usually man asking God – but here it is God asking man (Moses).

Moses understood God to be:

- Patient, longsuffering and merciful
- God forgives again and again
- God is a covenant God

Moses was inspired to pray this way based upon what God already revealed about Himself.

The big “take away” – God has begun a work in you and will continue that work until the day of Jesus Christ.

The very best God has for you begins with receiving Jesus Christ.

Numbers 14:21-25