

EXODUS

“The 12 Spies of Israel”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- That the Israelites Leaving Egypt is called the Exodus
- 12 Spies checked out the Promised Land
- God used a Bronze Snake in the Desert
- God used a donkey to teach a lesson

Series Theme Verse: “The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.” - Exodus 14:14

Lesson Objective: For students to understand that God had a plan, but Israel chose their way, not God’s way.

Lesson Passage: Numbers 13:1-2, 17-30

Materials Needed: Bibles, theme verse on a poster,

Lesson Plan: Remind students that we ended with the Israelites safely on the other side of the Red Sea last week. The people of Israel trekked through the desert, led by God, and ended up coming to the land that God had promised to give the descendants of Abraham. God wanted them to see what was awaiting them, and that is where we pick up today.

Talking Points: Numbers 13:1-2, 17-30

- What was the name of the Promised Land? (Canaan)
- Who was giving the land to Israel? (God)
- How many spies were sent to check out the Promised Land? (12)
- Why 12? (One spy for each tribe that made up the people of Israel)
- Note: The Twelve Tribes of Israel were founded by the sons or grandsons of Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel. The tribes can better be visualized as the twelve families descended from Jacob/Israel.
- What were the spies to do? (vs. 17-20)
- How big was the fruit the spies found? (One cluster of grapes had to be carried on a pole between two spies)
- How long were the spies in the land? (40 Days)
- What did the spies report to the people? (That the land was amazing! Vs. 26-27)
- Was there any negative report from the spies? (Yes, the people were huge and Israel would be like grasshoppers to them, and they have fortified cities)
- Did every spy think they should run away? (No, Caleb said they should take the land as God said...Joshua agrees with Caleb we find out in later text)
- Note: In Chapter 14, we find the people rebel against Moses and God, and choose not to take the land. When they finally repent of their sin, there are still

consequences, only Caleb and Joshua will enter the land, the rest will die of and their children will enter the Promised Land.

The Story Retold:

- Send out your spies!
- Take your class from floor to floor and spy on the other classes by trying to count the number in each class without being spotted.
- Remind students that in spying out the land God promised, the spies had to avoid being seen or they risked being killed by the inhabitants of the land.

The Story and Me:

- Have the Series theme verse written on a poster or white board.
- Remind students of the Series Theme Verse and that God had a plan for Israel, but Israel forgot the power of God and how God would fight for them. Israel chose their own path and only a few every received the promise of God and the land of Canaan.
- Let the students come up with motions for each word in the verse (“The Lord” might be pointing up).
- Say the verse together using the motions.