LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS MATTER OF TRUST - A DIFFERENT SPIRIT

Numbers 13-14:38 Pastor Miles McPherson – January 5, 2014



MEMORY VERSE

"The land, which we passed through to spy it out, is an exceedingly good land. 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." (Numbers 14:7b–8, ESV)

DISCUSSION STARTERS

Describe your most difficult trust situation that you have ever experienced. What made it so difficult? Who or what helped you get through the situation? Knowing what you know now, how would you handle the situation differently today?

COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS — A DIFFERENT SPIRIT

Read Numbers 13:1 - 14:38

Simply by requesting to send spies, Israel showed it's lack of faith in God, who had promised His people many times that He would give them the land that flows with milk and honey. Moses confirms in Deuteronomy 1:20-23 that it was not a command from God but the desire of the people to send the spies.

In what areas of your life have you lacked faith in God and His promises?

Ten of the twelve spies gave a bad report (13:31-33). What's interesting is that despite the bad report these ten spies could not deny that the land flowed with milk and honey and bore much fruit (13:27), just as God had promised. Today many Christians have "spied out" their inheritance in Christ and have even tasted some of the fruits of His blessings, but their unbelief keeps them from entering in by faith.

 It can be easy at times to focus on the obstacles or negatives in situations rather than the advantages or positives. How do we avoid falling into this way of thinking?

Instead of trusting the promises of God, Israel put their faith in their senses and the fear of a few men. It seems that Israel had already forgotten their victory song they sang after God miraculously delivered them from Pharaoh and the Egyptians (Ex. 15:14-18). Rather than claim the Promised Land, Israel choose to return back to slavery and death (Num. 14:1-4)!



As Christians we have freedom from sin through Jesus Christ and His death and
resurrection. However, like the ancient Israelites, our past sins can at times be
appealing even though we know they are destructive and lead to death. Break into
groups of 2-3 people and discuss the temptations/sins that you still struggle with
or don't yet have victory over. Commit to praying for victory for one another in
these areas.

GROUP ACTIVITY

It is not uncommon to forget or lose track of all that God has done in our lives. It becomes easier to trust God when we remember what God has already done in our lives and the lives of those around us. This week create a list of situations and times in which God has been faithful in your life. In addition to God's Word, this list of "Reasons to Trust God" can serve as an encouragement this year when you find trusting God to be difficult.

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