

MAIN POINT

God calls us to care more about what He says than what we see.

INTRODUCTION

Do you tend to defer to the majority opinion and go along with the crowd? Or do you tend to speak up for what you want?

How does this work when the group is trying to decide where to go to eat? How does it work when the church is struggling to find and obey God's will?

At times, we are all tempted to go with the crowd. Depending on the situation, this can be positive or negative. But when it comes to listening to God, we are called to be faithful to Him no matter what others or our circumstances tell us. Through today's passage in Numbers 13, we are reminded that God calls us to care more about what He says than what we see.

DISCUSSION

> READ NUMBERS 13:1-33.

Put yourself in this setting. Do you think you would have been more like Caleb, one of the other spies, or one of the onlooking Israelites? Why?

Have you ever felt like the people in this account—that God had called you to do or be something, only to find great obstacles blocking your path? What were the circumstances?

If God had promised the people the land, then why do you think He still made them go in and take it, fighting through the obstacles?

How does fighting through the giants in our lives help forge our character?

What are some of the things we must believe to be true about God in order to take hold of His promises and face the giants standing in the way?

What is one obstacle standing in the way of your taking hold of God's promises right now?

What is one character trait of God you need to be reminded of this week in light of that obstacle?

How can we, as a group, help each other move forward and face the obstacles standing in our way?

APPLICATION

Where do you need fresh perspective in light of who God is this week? How are you encouraged or challenged in that by today's study?