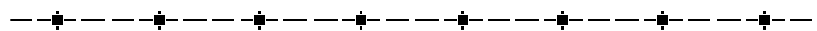


# Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2009

# Through the Old Testament in Two Years

## Part One



Created for use with young, unchurched learners  
Adaptable for all ages including adults

# Old Testament

## Exploring Canaan

Last week we learned that while Moses was up on a mountain getting the Ten Commandments (rules) from God, the people of Israel became impatient. Aaron led the people of Israel to sin. God told Moses to stop the people. Moses came down from the mountain and stopped the people from their sin. But God punished Israel for their sin.

Numbers 13-14

## Read the Bible

**READ: Numbers 13:17-30 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)**

## Memory Verse:

I feel I should write and ask you to stand up for the faith  
(**Jude 1:3 NIRV**)

## Begin With Prayer

We have been following God's people as they traveled through the desert. Remember that God had promised them that He would take them to a wonderful land that had plenty of milk and honey. (Exodus 3:8)

Finally the people got to the border of the land that God had promised them. The people were excited! Moses chose 12 leaders to spy out the land. They were from 12 different clans, or families. Two of the people were Joshua and Caleb. (Numbers 13:1-16)

## Lesson Goals:

1. Understand that the people had arrived at the promised land.
2. Learn that the 12 spies saw the promised land and its fruit.
3. Understand that ten of the spies were afraid to fight the people of the land.
4. Recognize that God punished Israel.

The 12 secretly spied out the land. They saw that the land was full of crops and fruit. In fact, it took two of the spies to carry one cluster of grapes! They also saw the people. They looked like giants! They had heard many things about these people, too. The people were expert warriors who got whatever they wanted. (Numbers 13:17-25)

After 40 days, the men returned to Moses. Ten of the men were afraid and scared. They told God's people that there was no way that they could take over the land. They saw the warriors' strength and their own weakness. (Numbers 13:26-29)

Joshua and Caleb told the people that, with God's help, they could do anything. However, the people were not listening to them. They were afraid of what the people might do, instead of what God could do! (Numbers 13:29-30)

During the night, cries were heard everywhere. People were scared and frightened. They began to argue and complain. They thought about getting another leader and going back into slavery! Imagine that! They wanted to trade their freedom for slavery again. (Numbers 14:1-3)

As they were complaining, they were forgetting one thing. They forgot about all the ways that God had helped them. He freed them from slavery, made a wall of water for them so they walked through the Red Sea, gave them food in the

### Exploring Canaan — Bible Facts

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|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. God promised Israel a special land.</li><li>3. Only Joshua and Caleb gave a good report.</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>2. Moses sent out 12 spies.</li><li>4. The Israelites would have to wander for 40 years.</li></ol> |
|---|--|

desert, and protected them from the heat. All they could think about were the negative problems.

The next morning, they gathered together. Moses, Aaron, Joshua, and Caleb told the people that God would help them conquer these enemies. The people became angry. They even picked up stones to try to kill them. (Numbers 14:4-10)

Finally, God's presence filled the area where they were gathered. God told the people that they would now have to wait 40 years to enter the land. (Numbers 14:33) He also told them that only Joshua and Caleb would get to enter the new land because they were the only two out of the 12 who believed and trusted God. (Numbers 14:22-24)

The people were very sorry for their sin. They told God they were sorry for the things that they had done. They decided to go ahead and enter the land, even though God had told them that they would not have the land for 40 years.

Sure enough, God did not help them, and they lost the battle. The people in the land attacked them and drove them back into the desert. (Numbers 13:39-45)

God loved His people and forgave them for the sin that they committed. God also knew that they would have to suffer the consequences for their sin. Because they did not follow God, they had to stay in the hot desert for 40 more years! God wants us to believe and stand up for our faith. (James 1:3)

### Review

1. What did God promise Israel? (a special land)
2. What did Moses do? (sent out 12 spies)
3. Who gave a good report? (Joshua and Caleb gave a good report)
4. What did God do? (as punishment, Israel would have to wander in the desert for 40 years)

### Do you know Jesus?

When we do wrong, we must pay for our mistakes, too. (Romans 6:23) God knew that sometimes we would choose wrong instead of right. He knew that this would separate us from Him. (Romans 3:23) So, He thought of a plan. He made a bridge so that we could get to Him. He sent His Son, Jesus. Jesus died and rose again to take the punishment for all our sin. (John 3:16) To cross the bridge to God, we must trust in Jesus and believe that He died for our wrongs. We must ask Him to be our best friend and come into our lives. (Romans 10:9-10) He will take away our sin. (1 John 1:9) One day, if we believe, God will take us to Heaven!

### Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to pay for our mistakes.
3. Ask God to help you obey Him.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to obey Him.

### Application

Israel had arrived at the border of the Promised Land. Moses sent out 12 spies. They saw the promised land and its fruit but they were afraid to fight the people of the land. God had protected Israel from the plagues, from pharaoh's army, etc. They did not want to obey God. They tried to kill Moses, Caleb and Joshua. God punished Israel and caused them to wander in the desert for 40 years.

### Planning for the next week:

Balaam and the Donkey — Numbers 22

# Preschool Lesson

## Read the Bible

**READ: Numbers 13:17-30 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)**

•Teachers: Glue or tape two paper rolls together to look like binoculars. Talk about how the leaders spied out the land.

Moses chose 12 people to spy out the land. They were from 12 different families. Let's count to 12.

Two of the people were Joshua and Caleb. The 12 secretly spied out the land. (Put your hand over your eyes as if you are spying) They saw that the land was full of fruits and vegetables. In fact, it took two of the spies to carry one cluster of grapes! They must have been very, very big!

They also saw the people. They looked like giants. (Raise your hand as high as it will reach) They had heard many things about these people, too. The people were mean warriors who got whatever they wanted.

After 40 days, the men came back to Moses. Ten of the men were afraid and scared. They told God's people that there was no way that they could take over the land. They saw the warriors' strength and their own weakness.

Joshua and Caleb told the people that, with God's help, they could do anything. However, the people were not listening to them. They were afraid of what the people might do, instead of what God could do!

During the night, cries were heard everywhere. People were scared and frightened. (Make crying noises.) They began to argue and complain. They thought about getting another leader and going back into slavery! Imagine that! They wanted to trade their freedom for slavery again.

The next morning, they gathered together. Moses, Aaron, Joshua, and Caleb told the people that God would help them conquer these enemies. The people became angry.

God told them that only Joshua and Caleb would get to enter the new land because they were the only two out of the 12 who believed and trusted God. The people were very sorry for their sin. They told God they were sorry for the things that they had done. God loved His people and forgave them for their sin.

God loves us and wants us to obey Him and do what He says.

### Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to pay for our mistakes.
3. Ask God to help you obey Him.

### Memory verse for younger children:

I feel I should write and ask you to stand up for the faith. James 1:3

## Learning Activities

•**Memory verse activity** — Blow up purple balloons to resemble the big grapes in the story. Write the memory verse on the balloons. Tie the balloons together to look like grapes on a branch. Tie the grapes on a stick. Let two children at a time carry the grapes around the room or your area as they say the memory verse.

•**Test your memory** — Cut out several people figures using newsprint or poster board. Make them 13” tall. Lay the figures on the floor. Cut out figures the height of your children lay the figures of the children next to the giant figures. Use the figures as you tell the story.

•**Taste activity** — Bring grapes and talk about how big the grapes must have been that the leaders saw.

•**Think about it** — Joshua and Caleb knew that with God all things are possible. Talk about other examples in the Bible that show how God made something impossible happen!!

Israel wandered in the desert for about a year and then they were at the border of the land God had promised them. Because ten men gave a bad report and said there were giants in the land, they did not go and possess the land. They had forgotten all the miracles. Talk about the importance of remembering what God has done for us.

The Israelites tried to kill Moses, Joshua and Caleb. They didn’t want to go fight. They forgot that God fought for them in Egypt, the Red Sea, etc. Talk about missing God’s best.

Measure out how tall a giant must have been. Talk about the courage of Joshua and Caleb and how they stood up for what was right. Ask them to give examples of how they can stand up for what is right.

**Touch activity** — Bring real binoculars or a magnifying glass if you have one. Place an object far away and try to zoom in with the glass and see it. Or you may also, glue or tape two paper rolls together to look like binoculars. Talk about how the leaders spied out the land.

Play the “I spy” game.

If possible show a portion of the movie, “Facing the Giants,” or encourage the children to watch it.

•**Run and play** — The people of Israel had to stay in the desert because of their disobedience. Have the children take 40 steps. Count out 40 seconds using a stop watch. Have them run in circles for four minutes.

•**Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to obey Him and stand up for our faith.

•**Sing** — Sing “Stand Up, Stand Up,” “Thou Art Worthy,” or another song related to the story.

•**Reach out** — During class, pray for kids that did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver the handouts. Bring purple balloons with memory verse on it for each of the children who did not attend.

Memory Verse

I feel  
I should write  
and ask you  
to stand up  
for the faith  
James 1:3

## Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

Moses

sent

spies

## Word Search

J B D T R V P K A K P G W  
P J D E F E S E L R I A D  
S I D N H K D I O S N U K  
Y D L S A S M E L D O R R  
P E E R T L I I E N T E V  
H F N P E P O R I P D P R  
S S B O P R Y A U R O F Y  
R E M K H I T G O P J T B  
A T I O N N T B E R R T R  
O D A P U J R S B O A G C  
N S L O S W O P F Y D A Y  
J E M O B I P O C N L B B  
R I T L G I E E K F W A P  
P C V J M K R J B F N T S

LAND

MILK

HONEY

BORDER

SPIES

FORTY

REPORT

TEN

WANDER



# Word Search

J	B	D	T	R	V	P	K	A	K	P	G	W
P	J	D	E	F	E	S	E	L	R	I	A	D
S	I	D	N	H	K	D	I	O	S	N	U	K
Y	D	L	S	A	S	M	E	L	D	O	R	R
P	E	E	R	T	L	I	I	E	N	T	E	V
H	F	N	P	E	P	O	R	I	P	D	P	R
S	S	B	O	P	R	Y	A	U	R	O	F	Y
R	E	M	K	H	I	T	G	O	P	J	T	B
A	T	I	O	N	N	T	B	E	R	R	T	R
O	D	A	P	U	J	R	S	B	O	A	G	C
N	S	L	O	S	W	O	P	F	Y	D	A	Y
J	E	M	O	B	I	P	O	C	N	L	B	B
R	I	T	L	G	I	E	E	K	F	W	A	P
P	C	V	J	M	K	R	J	B	F	N	T	S

LAND

MILK

HONEY

BORDER

SPIES

FORTY

REPORT

TEN

WANDER

## Word Search

S F G B P V L S K S E A  
P R C O F J B N D S F G  
S P I E S V L G K B C V  
B O R D E R F D C D K F  
B F G F P S P B G B V D  
M I L K B N T J V N P T  
R E P O R T F G B V N D  
J R S A F M S I N N E D  
T E N G N A J B K Y L D  
H O N E Y B P C V N R P  
B F D R C V N B P H F D

SPIES

HONEY

TEN

BORDER

MILK

REPORT

## Word Search

S F G B P V L S K S E A

P R C O F J B N D S F G

S P I E S V L G K B C V

B O R D E R F D C D K F

B F G F P S P B G B V D

M I L K B N T J V N P T

R E P O R T F G B V N D

J R S A F M S I N N E D

T E N G N A J B K Y L D

H O N E Y B P C V N R P

B F D R C V N B P H F D

SPIES

HONEY

TEN

BORDER

MILK

REPORT

## Anagram

DATSN

HATIF

HOASUJ

BACEL

ODOG

SITANG

DERAFE

DUHEPINS

NADDEWR

# Anagram

STAND

FAITH

JOSHUA

CALEB

GOOD

GIANTS

FEARED

PUNISHED

WANDERED