

Focus passage: Numbers 13:25-32

25 At the end of forty days they returned from spying out the land. **26** And they came to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation of the people of Israel in the wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh. They brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. **27** And they told him, "We came to the land to which you sent us. It flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. **28** However, the people who dwell in the land are strong, and the cities are fortified and very large. And besides, we saw the descendants of Anak there. **29** The Amalekites dwell in the land of the Negeb. The Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites dwell in the hill country. And the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and along the Jordan."

30 But Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, "Let us go up at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it." **31** Then the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are." **32** So they brought to the people of Israel a bad report of the land that they had spied out, saying, "The land, through which we have gone to spy it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people that we saw in it are of great height."

What stands out to you from this passage?

What does it mean to you for a land to be flowing with milk and honey?

Abundant honey is not a sign of a plague of bees, it is indicative of a land so great and conditions so ideal that it can sustain enough bees to produce great amounts of honey. How was that different from their time in the wilderness?

*The Israelite people were invited to literally taste and see that the Lord is good, that he was going to provide for them. **Read those words in Psalm 34.***

As appealing as the land was, the people were hesitant. Why?

*The fear of the people was so great that they threatened to stone those who favored entering the promised land. What do you think was the result of their fear? **Read Numbers 14:21-35.***

When has fear lead us astray or kept us from following what we believe is God's will?

The Israelites feared the people of the promised land more than they trusted God. How could you use the words of Psalm 34 to counter such fear?

How can you apply this Scripture to your life?

