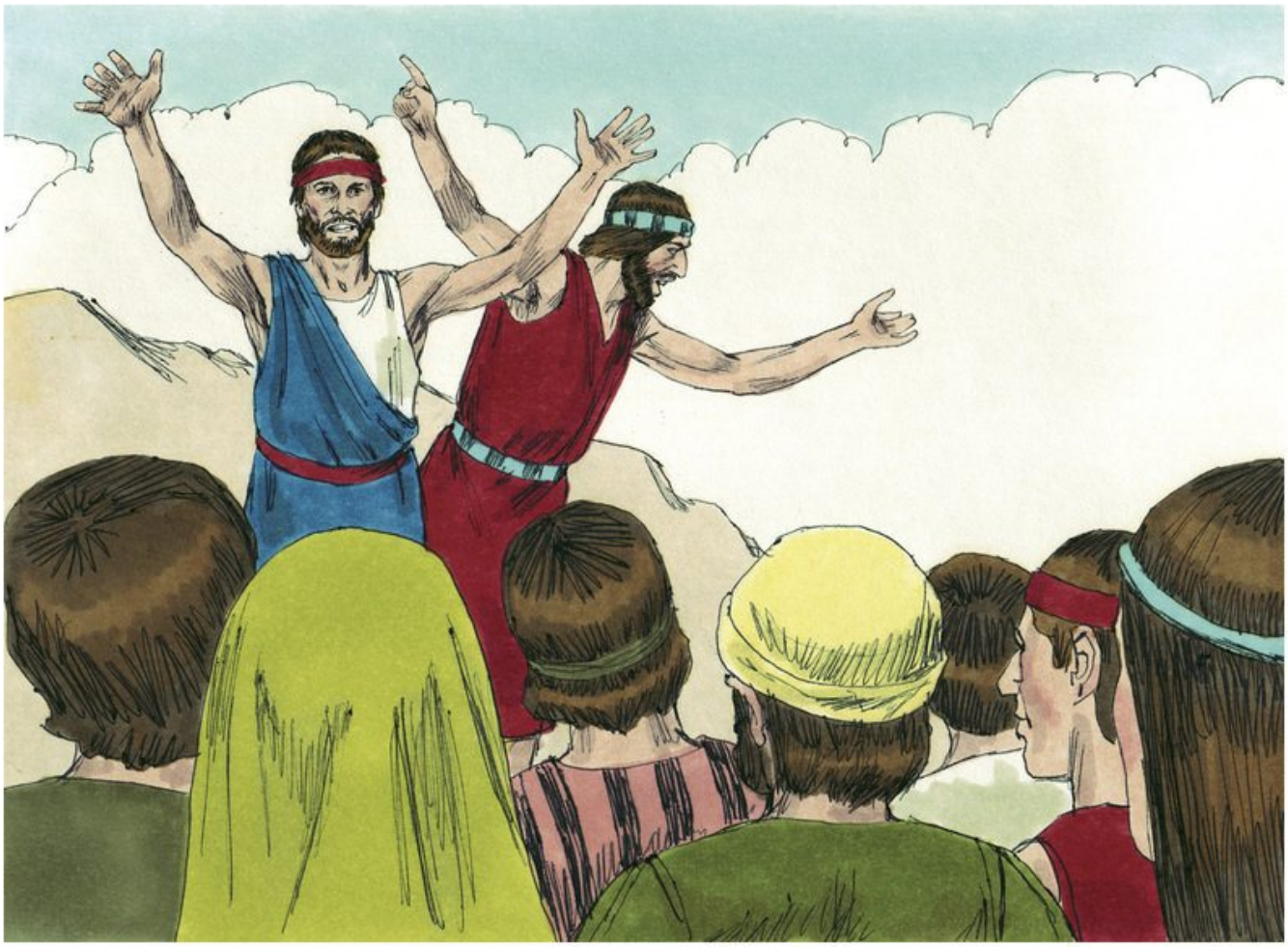
GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Joshua and Caleb Trust God

Numbers 13:1-14:9



YOUR BIBLE READING

Joshua and Caleb acknowledged difficulties while trusting God's promise to Israel.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Twelve Leaders Explore Canaan

Numbers 13:1-14:9



God told Moses to send leaders from Israel's tribes to explore Canaan, the land he was giving them. Twelve men were chosen, one from each tribe. Joshua and Caleb were among them. Moses gave the group specific things to observe. They were to look at the land and the people living there, rather than return with guesses about a place they had never carefully visited or seen for themselves.

Moses asked whether the people were strong or weak, many or few. He wanted to know whether their towns were open camps or fortified cities. The explorers were to notice whether the soil was fertile and whether there were trees. He encouraged them to be courageous and bring back fruit. It was the season of the first ripe grapes, so the fruit could help show what the land produced.

The men traveled through the country and reached the valley of Eshcol. There they cut a branch carrying a cluster of grapes so large that two men carried it between them on a pole. They also took pomegranates and figs. These were things the waiting people could see, not only descriptions they would have to imagine. After forty days of exploring, the men returned to Moses, Aaron, and the whole community at Kadesh.

The explorers showed the fruit and reported that the land was rich, a place flowing with milk and honey. But they also spoke about strong people and large, fortified cities. They named the peoples in different parts of the country and mentioned the descendants of Anak. Their report included both the good things they had found and obstacles that seemed formidable. The community now had to decide how to respond to what they heard.

Remember: A frightening report may not tell the whole story.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Two Voices Speak Against Despair

Numbers 13:1-14:9



Caleb quieted the people before Moses and urged them to go up and take the land. He said they were able to overcome it. The other men who had explored with him disagreed. They said the people there were stronger than Israel and that entering was impossible. Their description grew frightening. They compared themselves with grasshoppers beside the great people they had seen and spread a bad report among the Israelites.

That night, the people cried aloud. They complained against Moses and Aaron and said it would have been better to die in Egypt or in the wilderness. They feared for their wives and children. Some proposed choosing a leader and going back to Egypt. The journey that had brought them out of slavery now seemed, in their frightened conversation, like something they should undo. Their response went beyond simply admitting that the next stage looked hard.

Moses and Aaron fell facedown before the gathered community. Joshua and Caleb tore their clothes, a sign of distress. They had seen the land too, and they spoke again about its goodness. They did not claim the towns were imaginary or that no other people lived there. They urged Israel to remember God, who could bring them into the land and give it to them according to the promise they had received.

Joshua and Caleb called on the people not to rebel and not to be ruled by fear of the land's inhabitants. They said God was with Israel. This reading stops with their appeal, before the later events of the chapter. The disagreement remains plain: the same journey and the same land have produced very different responses. Two explorers are asking their community to consider God's presence as well as the difficulties they have reported.

Pause and think: How can you tell the difference between noticing a difficulty and deciding that no hopeful response is possible?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Separate What Happened from What Someone Predicts



A report can contain an observation and a prediction. In an ordinary example, a child says that a puzzle has many pieces and then says nobody could ever finish it. The number of pieces is something to observe; the prediction is a conclusion. Can you think of another example? Learning to tell the difference can help you listen thoughtfully without pretending that a real difficulty is not there.

Feeling afraid is not a moral failure. You can describe the fear and ask for support. A trusted adult may help you check information, plan a manageable step, or decide that something is unsafe. Trust does not require a child to enter danger or ignore good advice. It can include asking careful questions and remembering the help that is available.

The fruit gave Israel something concrete to examine. What information helps you understand a new task: a demonstration, a picture, written steps, or a chance to ask questions? People may need different kinds of help. If your group faces an unfamiliar project, discuss what would let everyone see it more clearly before deciding what can or cannot be done.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Joshua and Caleb urge Israel to consider God's promise while facing the real difficulties the explorers have seen.

How can you tell the difference between noticing a difficulty and deciding that no hopeful response is possible?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What did the explorers bring back?

2. Which two explorers urged the people to trust God?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Joshua and Caleb urged the frightened people to trust God.
- ☐ Moses sent leaders to explore Canaan.
- ☐ They returned with fruit and different responses to what they saw.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw the branch of grapes carried on a pole by two explorers.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

A frightening report may not tell the whole story.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Numbers 14:6-9

A thoughtful conversation

Feeling fear is not a child's moral failure. This story concerns a particular national promise; it should not be used to urge children into danger or to despise people from another land.

Activity answers

1. Grapes, figs, and pomegranates.
2. Joshua and Caleb.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

If you wish: God, help me talk about fear and listen for truth with courage.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on Numbers 13:1-14:9. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration © Sweet Publishing; 04_Nu_13_07_RG.jpg. CC BY-SA 3.0. Source: unfoldingWord. Resized proportionally, without cropping.
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