

Lesson 47: Moses Sends Spies to the Promised Land
Numbers 13:1–14:23

Youtube Link: https://youtu.be/9R4OHjmGu_c

Children's Bible Story Video: <https://youtu.be/raBUuhqu4RU>

Worship Theme: God never fails.

Memory Verse: In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps. (Prov. 16:9)

Songs (Youtube links):

1. Our God is So Great <https://youtu.be/QXEVqO94wpg>
2. If the Lord Is with Us https://youtu.be/2CzIW4_ueg0
3. Our God is so strong <https://youtu.be/VvrF94VKKHA>

Prayer

Song: Select songs from the list above.

Icebreaker: Keep the Balloon Up!



1. Divide the children into groups of 3-4 children.
2. Give each group a balloon.
3. They need to work together to keep the balloon from touching the ground.
4. Once the balloon touches the ground, they can sit down.
5. After all the group failed to keep the balloon up, remind the children that humans are not perfect and that we will fail. But God never fails. Whatever God does, God always succeeds.

Introduction:

God never fails us when we have problems; he never fails us when we're sad; and he never fails to provide for us, either. God even cares for the birds of the air and the flowers of the field. But even more than that, God cares for you! The Bible is full of stories about how God never fails to rescue his people from scary circumstances. Today, we will learn about how Moses sent 12 spies to check out the Promised Land that God gave to the Israelites. Let's find out if they choose to trust in God who never fails!

Bible Story:

It was finally time for the Israelites to enter and claim the land God promised them. Moses sent spies to explore the Promised Land. It was a land flowing with the richness of God's promise. It was abundant in fruit, milk, and honey. When the spies first returned, they simply reported what Moses had asked for. They told of the fruitfulness of the land, the powerful people, and the fortified cities (Numbers 13:26-29).

But after Caleb spoke his mind, the other spies went beyond what they had been asked to do. They began to complain that there was no way they could defeat the people in the land and said giants lived there. The people began to rebel against Moses and against God. Once again the Israelites' grumbling attitude took over. Once again they lost faith and wished to be back in slavery in Egypt.

But Caleb, and later Joshua, encouraged the Israelites to take the land, insisting that the Lord would be with them. Caleb and Joshua knew they could count on God to help them. They knew that God never fails to keep his promises. Because the Israelites did not trust God's power, God punished them by saying that they will not be able to enter the Promised Land for 40 years and that no adults except Caleb and Joshua will be allowed to enter the Promised Land.

We need to always remember that God is perfect and powerful. God will never fail us. You can always trust God to help you whenever you're in trouble. Remember, nothing is bigger than God and God never fails!

Questions to discuss:

1. How many spies were sent to check out the Promised Land? (12 spies)
2. How many spies said that giants live in this land and that they are too strong for the Israelites? (10 spies)
3. Which spies said that they can fight the giants and win since the Israelites have God with them? (Caleb and Joshua)
4. What kind of problems (giants) do you have in your life that God can help you to overcome? (family problem, flood, friend problems, etc.)

Game: Stack the Cups

Materials Needed: Cups



1. Divide the children into groups of 3-4.
2. Give paper cups to students and have them stack the cups without making them fall.
3. The group that made the tallest stack wins the game.
4. After the game, remind the students that we fail because we're humans, but God will never fail. We can always trust in God.

Memory Verse: In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps. (Prov. 16:9)

Craft: "God Never Fails" Coloring Page

Ask children to write "God Never Fails" inside of the heart.

Song: Select songs from the list above

Prayer

Teacher's Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)

Many people have died because they professed their faith in Jesus Christ. While most of us do not experience persecution to this degree, non-Christians can be resentful of our claims to know the truth in Christ. These confrontations put Christians in a difficult situation. Think about non-Christians you regularly come in contact with. Are you the same person with them as you are before the children you are teaching? Pray that you will stand up for Jesus in your interactions with non-Christians.



