

PARALYZING FEAR OR PERSISTENT FAITH
Sermon Outline — Numbers 13 & 14
Sermon Series: It's A Brand New Year, Is It The Same Old You?
Sunday, January 1, 2023
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- + *Hebrews 11:1b*, “Faith is the evidence of things we cannot see” (NLT).
- + *Numbers 13-20*, Moses sent them to explore [spy on] Canaan and said, “Go through southern Canaan [the Negev] and then into the mountains. ¹⁸See what the land looks like. Are the people who live there strong or weak? Are there a few or many? ¹⁹What kind of land do they live in? Is it good or bad? What about the towns they live in—are they open like camps -- unwalled, or do they have walls? ²⁰What about the soil? Is it fertile and rich fertile or poor? Are there trees and forests there? Enter boldly, unafraid and courageous and bring back some of the fruit from that land because it is the season for the first grapes” (EXB).
- + *Numbers 13:21-22*, “So they went up and explored the land from the wilderness of Zin as far as Rehob, near Lebo-hamath. ²²Going north, they passed through the Negev and arrived at Hebron, where the Ahimanites, Sheshaites, and Talmaites—all descendants of Anak—lived” (PAR).
- + *Numbers 13:23, 25-26*, “When they came to the valley of Eshcol, they cut down a branch with a single cluster of grapes so large that it took two of them to carry it on a pole between them! They also brought back samples of the pomegranates and figs . . . ²⁵“After exploring the land for forty days, the men returned ²⁶to Moses, Aaron, and the whole community of Israel at Kadesh in the wilderness of Paran. They reported to the whole community what they had seen and showed them the fruit they had taken from the land” (NLT).

This Is What Happens When I Look at My Future With the Eyes of Paralyzing Fear

1. I get _____ due to _____.
 - + *Numbers 13:27-28*, “We arrived in the land you sent us to see, and it is indeed a magnificent country—a land ‘flowing with milk and honey.’ Here is some fruit we have brought as proof. ²⁸**BUT** the people living there are powerful, and their cities are fortified and very large; and what’s more, we saw Anakim giants there!” (TLB).
2. I feel, “I need to _____ what I have now because I may not _____.”
 - + *Numbers 13:29*, “The Amalekites live in the Negev, and the Hittites, Jebusites, and Amorites live in the hill country. The Canaanites live along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea and along the Jordan Valley” (NLT).
 - ★ When you look through the perspective of paralyzing fear, you will develop a “_____ and _____ mentality.”
3. I start fulfilling my own _____.
 - + *Numbers 13:30-31*, “But Caleb (and Joshua) tried to quiet the people as they stood before Moses. “Let’s go at once to take the land,” he said. “We can certainly conquer it!” ³¹“But the other men (the other 10 spies) who had explored the land with him disagreed. “We can’t go up against them! They are stronger than we are!” (NLT).
4. Like a _____, I _____ others with my fear, doubt, and negativity.
 - + *Numbers 13:32a*, “So they spread this bad report about the land among the Israelites” (NLT).
 - ★ The Hebrew word translated as “bad” is [דִּבַּת, dibbat]. This Hebrew word refers to something that is _____ and _____.
5. I see myself as _____ for the _____.
 - + *Numbers 13:32b*, “The land we traveled through and explored will devour anyone who goes to live there. All the people there are huge” (NLT).

- + Numbers 13:33, “We saw the Nephilim (giants) there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them” (NIV).
- ★ Do you know what happens when you worry: whatever you are worrying about _____.

6. I make myself _____.

- + Numbers 14:1-2, “Then the whole community began weeping aloud, and they cried all night. ²Their voices rose in a great chorus of protest against their leaders, Moses and Aaron. If only we had died in Egypt, or even here in the wilderness!” they complained” (PAR).
- ★ There are 3 parts to a pity party: _____, _____, becoming _____.
- + 2 Corinthians 5:7, “For we walk by faith, not by sight” (ESV).
- + Hebrews 11:1, 6, “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen . . . ⁶And without faith it is impossible to please Him” (ESV).
- + Numbers 13:30, “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” (ESV).

3 “Baby” Steps I Can Take To Move Out In Persistent Faith

1. Give Jesus _____ of your life and heart.

- + John 14:27, Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives” (NIV).
- + John 3:3, Jesus said to Nicodemus, “I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God” (NLT).

2. I take the _____ that help me _____.

- + Deuteronomy 1:6, God said to the Hebrews, “You have stayed long enough at this mountain” (ESV).
 - What is that “_____” for you that you would rather stay rather than leave?
- + Exodus 14:15, “Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘Why are you crying out to Me? Tell the people to get moving!’” (NLT).
- ★ What is your “_____”?
- + Romans 6:3-4, “Or have you forgotten that all of us who were immersed into union with Jesus, the Anointed One, were immersed into union with his death? ⁴Sharing in his death by our baptism means that we were co-buried and entombed with him, so that when the Father’s glory raised Christ from the dead, we were also raised with him. We have been co-resurrected with him so that we could be empowered to walk in the freshness of new life” (TPT).
- ★ The Greek New Testament word used as “to be baptized” is [βαπτίζω; baptizō] and it means “to _____, to _____ to the _____, to be _____.”

3. _____ and _____ God to do whatever He tells you to do regardless of the _____.

- + 1 Samuel 15:22-23, “But Samuel replied, “What is more pleasing to the Lord: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to His voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams. ²³Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft, and stubbornness as bad as worshiping idols. So, because you have rejected the command of the Lord, He has rejected you as king” (NLT).
- + Numbers 14:6-9, “Joshua and Caleb said, ‘⁷The land we walked through and scouted out is a very good land—very good indeed. ⁸If God is pleased with us, He will lead us into that land, a land that flows, as they say, with milk and honey. And He’ll give it to us. ⁹Just don’t rebel against God! And don’t be afraid of those people. Why, we’ll have them for lunch! They have no protection and God is on our side. Don’t be afraid of them!’” (MSG).
- + Hebrews 3:19, “So we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief” (ESV).
- + Philippians 3:13, “The one thing I do, however, is to forget what is behind me and do my best to reach what is ahead” (GNT).