

**THE CHURCH IN NEW YORK CITY**  
**CHILDREN'S MEETING LESSON (Pre-K & K)**

**Lesson #30**

**DATE:**

**SUBJECT:** The Twelve Spies

**SCRIPTURE:** Numbers 13:1-33, 14:1-38; Deut. 1:19-40

**AIM:** To show the children that we should walk by faith and not by outward appearances.

**MEMORY VERSE:** 2 Cor. 5:7 “For we walk by faith, not by sight.”

**SONGS:** 20, 24, 25, 29, 30

**Review:**

The last few weeks we have been learning about the children of Israel and some of the things that happened to them. First God led them out of (Egypt) and through the (Red Sea). He fed them (manna) in the wilderness and gave them (water) to drink in the desert. God loved the children of Israel very much. They were His chosen people. But the children of Israel did not believe God would take care of them. Did they?

**Content:**

When God led the children of Israel out of Egypt He led them through the wilderness and then to the outside of the land of Canaan. This land was the land that God had promised to the children of Israel. This land was not empty; people lived there. The children of Israel had to go and take it from them. To God this was not a problem. God had promised this land to the children of Israel and God always keeps His promises. But the children of Israel told Moses to send a few people into the land first to see exactly who lived there. Moses went to God and asked if that was O.K. God said it was.

So one man from each tribe, twelve in all, left to spy out the land. Moses told them to look for certain things. He told them to see if the people were strong or weak. If there were a lot of people or just a few. Were they good people or bad? Did the land have good trees to eat from? Moses told them to bring back some fruit if they could.

The spies were gone for forty days. When they came back they told Moses and the children of Israel what they had seen. The land had wonderful fruit. They brought back grapes that were so heavy that it took two people to carry them. The twelve spies had only good things to say about the land. But when it came to the report on the people who lived there that was different. They told the children of Israel that the people who lived there were big and strong. They were like giants. The cities that they lived in had high walls around them. Ten of the spies said that they could not take the land from these people. But one of the spies named Caleb did not agree. He wanted to go in and take the land.

The children of Israel were very upset. They grumbled and complained. Why did God bring us into the wilderness to die? They even wanted to pick someone to lead them back to Egypt. They did not believe God's promise. All they could see were giants and walls.

Two of the spies that went to see the land (Joshua and Caleb) were upset. They told the children of Israel that the land was very good and that God would bring them into the land. Joshua and Caleb told them that God was with them and not to be afraid of the giants. But the children of Israel did not believe Joshua and Caleb. They wanted to throw stones at them.

Then God spoke to Moses. God told Moses that He was going to punish the children of Israel for not believing in His promise. They would never be allowed to go into Canaan because they did not trust God. They would wander in the wilderness for many years and then their children would be allowed to enter. Joshua and Caleb because they believed God would be allowed to enter.

**Application:**

The children of Israel did not trust God even though God had always taken care of them. Sometimes when things seem really impossible we look away from God and try to do it ourselves. We are sure to fail. We need to look to God. He loves us and would never leave us.