

The Most Expensive Report

- ☐ Greet people as they arrive
- ☐ Welcome new members publicly
- ☐ Praise reports
- ☐ Praise and Worship or have someone open up in prayer
- ☐ Discussion

Video & notes recap can be found here:

<https://newbeginning-church.com/mediacast/sermon-spies-numbers-13-14/>

Share intro/recap:

- The people of God were on the brink of entering the promised land.
- God told Moses to send 12 leaders from the 12 tribes to spy out the land.

Ask Why? What were they supposed to look for and report?

Answer:

- to gather intel about the following:
- whether the people who lived there were strong or weak, few or many ([Numbers 13:18](#))
- whether the land was good or bad ([Numbers 13:19](#))
- whether the cities were like camps or strongholds
- whether the land was rich or poor ([Numbers 13:20](#))
- whether or not there were forests there
- Moses asked that they would bring some of the fruit of the land brought back to show everybody ([Numbers 13:20](#)).

You may want to mention that they were to be of good courage ([Numbers 13:20](#)).

Ask: After 40 days of exploring, what did they see?

Read: [Numbers 13:25-28](#)

Ask: It seems that there were two reports. The first report was led by fear and the second by faith. What are some indications that the first report was led by fear?

Ask: How has their fearful report impacted others?

Answer:

When the Israelites heard this fearful report, they desired to return to Egypt, where they had been forced to work as slaves for forty years. It was easier for them to return to something familiar than to rely on God. The people of Israel also desired a change in leadership. Moses was to be disposed of, as he didn't agree with them. After hearing Joshua and Caleb's report,

the Jews were not only going to remove Moses, but they were to kill Joshua and Caleb by stoning. This information indicates that being led by faith is less popular than being led by fear. This story shows that ten out of twelve individuals acted under the influence of fear.

Note: *the giants were not the story, God giving them the land was the story but they made it all about their obstacles.*

Ask: What are the side effects of living a life led by fear?

Possible answers:

Fear blinds us of the possibilities (75% of 1 verse was positive, the rest was negative from their report.)

Fear is faith in disaster

Fear exaggerates the obstacles (the land devours...)

And fear can keep you from your God given destiny. (only Caleb and Joshua were aloud to enter the Promise Land)

Ask: How was Joshua and Caleb's report different?

See [Numbers 14:5-10](#)

Ask: What is the difference between prudence and fear, folly versus faith?

Ideas of leader concluding in prayer:

- To develop the reflex to focus more on God's plans than the obstacles.
- To have faith that if God is leading you somewhere, even if there are challenges, He will see you through.
- Develop discernment between prudence and fear, folly versus faith.

- ☐ Prayer requests & Prayer
- ☐ Fellowship/ if on Zoom, leave the Zoom open a bit for people to connect
- ☐ Close