



REAL LIFE ANSWERS

Numbers 13; Galatians 5:1

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MESSAGE NOTES

Fundamentals of Faith for Seizing Divine Moments:

"See, the Lord your God has set the land before you. Go up, take possession, as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has told you. Do not fear or be dismayed." — Deuteronomy 1:21 (ESV)

*The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel. From each tribe of their fathers you shall send a man, every one a chief among them."
— Numbers 13:1 – 2 (ESV)*

*These were the names of the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses called Hoshea the son of Nun Joshua. Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan and said to them, "Go up into the Negeb and go up into the hill country, and see what the land is, and whether the people who dwell in it are strong or weak, whether they are few or many, and whether the land that they dwell in is good or bad, and whether the cities that they dwell in are camps or strongholds ... Be of good courage and bring some of the fruit of the land." ...
— Numbers 13:16 – 20 (ESV)*

At the end of forty days they returned from spying out the land. And they came to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation of the people of Israel in the wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh. They brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. And they told him, "We came to the land to which you sent us. It flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit." — Numbers 13:25 – 27 (ESV)

However, the people who dwell in the land are strong, and the cities are fortified and very large. And besides, we saw the descendants of Anak there. — Numbers 13:28 (ESV)

'... Where can we go? Our brothers have demoralized us with their report. They tell us, "The people of the land are taller and more powerful than we are, and their towns are large, with walls rising high into the sky! We even saw giants there—the descendants of Anak!"' — Deuteronomy 1:28 (NLT)

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." — Numbers 13:30 (ESV)

Then the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are." So they brought to the people of Israel a bad report ... — Numbers 13:31 – 32 (ESV)

- **Speak about what God can do**

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." — Numbers 13:30 (ESV)



- **Think forward, not backward**

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.
— Galatians 5:1 (ESV)

- **Anticipate and face the giants**

Then the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are." So they brought to the people of Israel a bad report of the land that they had spied out ... — Numbers 13:31 – 32 (ESV)

- **Go unless you get a "No"**

'... and I promise that I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, a land flowing with milk and honey.'
— Exodus 3:17 (ESV)

"... Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." — Matthew 28:19 – 20 (ESV)

***"Too many divine opportunities are lost because we keep waiting for a word when the word has already been given."* — Irwin McManus**



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discussion Starter: What is a challenge in front of you that would bring you hope if you could see God working in or through it?
- What makes an everyday moment become a divine moment that glorifies God? Brainstorm some examples of what this might look like.
- Read Numbers 13:30–31. What is the difference between Caleb’s report and the other scouts’ report? What is a “*giant challenge*” in your life that God wants you to have Caleb-like faith for? How might responding with Caleb-like faith look in this situation?
- Where is an area in your life where God may be wanting to turn what you see as mundane into an opportunity for mission and God’s glory, even if you can’t see how yet?
- Read Matthew 28:18–20. What is the “go” in this passage, and what are the promises God gives us as we “go”?
- In Numbers 13:30, Caleb speaks about what God can do. Share something in your life that is a challenge and what God is able to do.
- Read Galatians 5:1. What are areas in life where God calls us to think forward, not backward (e.g., forgiveness)? What is an area of life where God is leading you to think forward instead of backward?
- Go around your group and share a present life challenge. As a group, speak some of God’s promises that come to mind in light of the challenges shared. Pray for one another to see divine moments in the face of current challenges and to know God’s promises in them as well.