

Home Group study: week beginning 6th June 2021

Facing Down Giants

Have you ever missed out on something that you really wanted to be part of?
Tell the story to the group. How did it feel?

Or:

Think of a famous person from history or fiction that missed out in a big way.
What did they miss and why?

Read: Numbers 13:26-14:10

Understanding

What negative report did 10 of the spies give with regards to the promised land?
What was wrong with their attitude and why do you think they had it?

What sort of challenges do we face coming out of COVID isolation and lockdown as a church, as a small group and as individuals? In what ways can these challenges drag us down?

What sort of personal giants are you facing in terms of your own particular challenges or difficulties? Take time to pray about these specifically.

The 10 spies then compounded their lack of faith by sharing their concerns within the wider community. Why was this activity so dangerous? In what ways can 'careless talk cost lives' within a church context?

God's summary judgement of these 10 is contained in Numbers 14:21-23

Nevertheless, as surely as I live and as surely as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of Jehovah, ⁽²²⁾ be sure that all those men who have seen my glory and my signs which I performed in Egypt and in the wilderness, but still have tested me these ten times and have not paid attention to my voice, ⁽²³⁾ shall not see the land I pledged to their forefathers. No one who has treated me with contempt shall see it.

What is striking to you about God's treatment of these 10?

Do you agree that lacking faith is treating God with contempt? Why or why not?
In what areas of your life are you at risk of treating God 'with contempt'?

Caleb and Joshua saw the same things as the other spies so what was the difference?

What are some of the ways we can develop a faith-filled mentality as opposed to one filled with sight and fear?

What are the key areas where we might want to 'take hold of a promised land'? What are the giants and strongholds that we face?

As Tim reminded us Caleb inherited a fine stretch of hill country in the promised land.
As a Christian, what do you want your inheritance to be?

Application

Pray for one another that faith would overcome fear in key areas of our lives. These might include family circumstances, health, work, finance, church life, our witness, peer pressure etc.